

Wolfensohn to Deliver Address to Graduates

By Kevin R. Lang

EDITOR IN CHIEF

The annual tuition riot is nothing new to MIT, but this year could potentially see a Commencement riot. World Bank Group President James D. Wolfensohn will address the Class of 2002 at commencement this year.

"Jim Wolfensohn is deeply and thoughtfully engaged in important core issues of our times — fighting poverty, promoting inclusion, enhancing education, and shaping globalization," said President Charles M. Vest in a statement yesterday. "He occupies a unique position at the intersection of the private and public sectors. His concerns have particular relevance to the world of 2002."

Wolfensohn selected by Vest

Last fall, Class of 2002 President Sudeb C. Dalai and Graduate Student Council President Dilan A. Seneviratne each generated a list of 10 to 15 possible Commencement speakers. They then met with the Commencement



COURTESY MIT NEWS OFFICE
James D. Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank, will speak at commencement this year.

ment committee, chaired by W. Eric Grimson, a professor in electrical engineering and computer science.

"We talked about the list that we as students had generated, and based on those we then finalized to a list of about ten people total," Dalai said. This list was then presented to Vest, who made the final selection.

However, Dalai said that Wolfensohn was not one of those recommended to Vest.

"He was not on that list," Dalai said. "I don't think we chose anybody from the World Bank."

Dalai did say that the committee considered a number of possible speakers involved in international affairs, especially related to world peace.

"Once we submit our condensed list to President Vest, we're kind of hands off," Dalai said. "I didn't know that [Wolfensohn] was even being considered."

Vest said that he considered not only the recommendations of the

Commencement, Page 19



The Chinese Students Club sponsored festivities in honor of the Chinese New Year last Saturday. Above, the MIT Lion Dance Troupe, in the final act of the Chinese Students Club New Year Banquet, wished everyone a "Happy New Year."



Noam Chomsky led a talk on Haiti last Friday.

Page 15



Comics

Page 9

Brass Rat Sparks Controversy

Some Question Committee's Decision to Include Female Figure

By Dan Cho

STAFF REPORTER

Controversy over the Class of 2004 brass rat design has prompted the Ring Committee to call for a class-wide vote.

Ring Committee chair Douglas J. Quattrochi '04 announced yesterday that members of the Class of 2004 will decide whether their class ring should incorporate the traditional Institute *Mens et Manus* seal depicting two men, or a seal which depicts one man and one woman.

Last night, Ring Committee member and Class of 2004 President Patrick Y. Kim said he would send out an e-mail with an image of the current seal design, which features a man and woman, and instructions for voting to members of Class of 2004. The responses will determine whether the current design is kept or the woman will be replaced with a second male. Students are to cast their votes via e-mail by Wednesday evening.

In the event of an extremely close vote, two different versions of the ring could be made available for purchase.

Gender a recent controversy

The issue of gender representation on the MIT class ring has been hotly debated in recent years. Two years ago, the Class of 2002 Ring Committee modified the traditional seal to include a man and a woman in modern clothing. The Class of 2003 Ring Committee returned to a more traditional, all-male version of the seal, though they did alter smaller details of the seal, as per custom.



COURTESY
2004 RING COMMITTEE

This past fall, the Ring Committee sent out an e-mail survey to the Class of 2004 requesting input on features to be included in the ring design. One of the survey questions specifically addressed the gender issue on the Institute seal. Of the 115 responses to this particular question, 62 preferred to have two men on the seal, according to statement Quattrochi posted in an online forum.

Leak leads to controversy

Controversy began this year when Daniel J. Serna '04 said he had learned of the planned modification to the seal in the middle of January from a member of the Ring Committee. While Serna understood the desire of some classmates to represent women at the Institute, he felt that no alteration to the ring's seal should be made while the official Institute seal remained unchanged.

"The class ring should not be used as a form of political statement," Serna said. "A school ring should have the official school seal on it."

Serna was also angry that the Ring Committee seemed to disregard the results of their own e-mail survey on the gender issue. Serna sent an e-mail to Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict and began an online discussion on a Web site maintained by classmate Jacob W. Faber '04.

On Sunday evening, Serna drafted a petition to change the seal on the ring back to a traditional version featuring two males. Serna hopes to gather 500 signatures from the Class of 2004 and "force the Ring Committee to respect the decision of the class."

Committee waffles on choice

At first, Quattrochi would neither confirm nor deny the presence of a woman on the Class of 2004 ring. He stressed that the fall survey was not meant as a class-wide referendum, but simply as a source of input for the Ring Committee to consider.

"The decision is not directly dependent on anything in the survey," Quattrochi said. "The survey is not the decision."

Quattrochi added that, while the committee would possibly change an extremely unpopular ring design, such matters would not be addressed until after the Ring Premier on March 17.

"They have to see it first before they can legitimately petition to have it changed," Quattrochi said.

Quattrochi and the committee, however, changed their minds after a phone conversation with Serna on yesterday afternoon, the day Serna

Brass Rat, Page 12

Only One UAP/VP Ticket Meets Petition Deadline

Election Committee to Continue Accepting Petitions

By Vicky Hsu

When Undergraduate Association election campaigns began last night, only one ticket had submitted

a petition for UA president and vice president.

The 2005 Class Council elections attracted the most candidates, with at least two candidates for each position. In contrast, for the Class of 2004 there is only one person or no one at all running for each position besides president and vice president. The Class of 2003 also appears to be able to white ballot three positions, including president.

Current UA officials, however, are not worried. "As long as there are qualified candidates, the number of candidates doesn't matter," said Helen Lee '02, UA Election Commissioner.

Victoria K. Anderson '02, speaker of the UA Council, agreed. "It is not necessarily a bad thing," she

said. "People want to put their energies into specific areas where they can be more effective. They may run for committee chairs within the UA or other committees in MIT such as faculty committees."

Jaime E. Devereaux '02, the current UA president, suggested that more petitions for the position may emerge in the next couple of days. "The Elections Commission has accepted late petitions for UA president and vice president before. It is up to the discretion of the Elections Commission as to how late the petitions would be accepted. We may expect to get a better picture of the election competitions in the next couple of days," she said.

Seale expected to run for UAP

As it stands, the only candidates for UAP and VP are Jennifer S. Yoon '03 and Miquela C. Vigil '03. "This news is a total surprise to me," Yoon said. "I was under the impression that there are four other people running. I would have liked

UA Elections, Page 18

Spring Rush Off to Slow Start for IFC

By Tom Kilpatrick

STAFF REPORTER

Spring rush typically lacks the fanfare and excitement of fall rush and Killian Court, with only a handful of freshmen participating each year. This year proved to be no exception, as roughly 21 freshmen, more than half female, came to La Sala de Puerto Rico last night for the Interfraternity Council's spring kickoff event.

Posters for the event promised a relaxed atmosphere, with representatives from all participating fraternities and independent living groups present, along with a live comedian, a raffle, and food.

According to IFC rush chair Joshua S. Yardley '04, just under 100 affiliated members represented their groups at the event. Three goals were to "get freshmen out, build momentum for years to come, and bring lots of houses together," Yardley said.

In an amusing twist, the event's organizers underestimated the num-

Spring Rush, Page 16

News

Professor Roger G. Mark will be the first housemaster of the Sidney-Pacific graduate dormitory.

World & Nation	2
Opinion	4
Arts	6
Events Calendar	11

Page 12

Page 12

Congress to Challenge Skilling On Claims Enron Was Healthy

By Peter Behr
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

The Senate Commerce Committee plans to press hard on former Enron Corp. chief executive Jeffrey K. Skilling when he testifies Tuesday to back up his claims that the energy giant was healthy when he abruptly resigned this past August, congressional aides say.

"On the day I left, I absolutely and unequivocally thought the company was in good shape," Skilling said in sworn testimony to a House subcommittee, referring to Enron's finances at the time he suddenly resigned on Aug. 14.

Skilling, the only member of Enron's senior management team not to exercise his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination, will appear along with two of his chief accusers — current Enron President

Jeffrey McMahon and whistleblower Sherron Watkins, an Enron vice president.

Their earlier testimony places Skilling at the center of Enron financial maneuvers now under investigation by the Justice Department, securities regulators and several congressional committees. Skilling denies he knew about any improprieties and said in a statement Monday that he looks forward to responding to Watkins' accusations.

The gaps between Skilling's version of events and others' is the subject of intense scrutiny and will be key to any personal liability Skilling will face for Enron's failure. Senior executives may not significantly misrepresent their company's financial condition and may be liable if they fail to deal with major problems.

"It's now a matter of the facts. How much did he actually know,

and what red flags were there," said Robert Prentice, business law professor at the University of Texas. A chief executive is entitled to rely on subordinates and outside accountants and attorneys — as Skilling says he often did, Prentice said. "But he can't see a red flag and look in the opposite direction."

During Skilling's six months as CEO last year, the company's share price dropped nearly 50 percent, to \$42 from \$82, as some investors grew wary of Enron's potential losses from the California energy crisis and problems in a major Internet venture.

Skilling has testified he believed these problems had been resolved when he departed, after a decade at Enron. But other former Enron executives and managers say these and other setbacks were evident months before Enron executives disclosed them last spring and summer.

Report Finds Terrorism Insurance For Businesses Difficult to Obtain

By Jackie Spinner
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON

A General Accounting Office report that will be released Wednesday found widespread evidence that large business and property owners are having difficulty getting terrorism insurance coverage, creating potential problems that are likely to reverberate throughout the economy.

Although the report does not cite specific cases, it found that the problem has increased significantly since the first of the year, when the majority of reinsurance contracts expired, leaving primary insurers without their backup coverage. As primary insurance policies have rolled over, coverage for terrorism has decreased for commercial policyholders, even as premiums have gone up.

"The potential for more severe economic impacts is increasing as the level of uninsured risk climbs," according to excerpts from the report, which were released Monday by the House Financial Services Committee. The committee plans to hold a hearing Wednesday on the issue.

Although not mentioned in the report, the Mall of America, the nation's largest shopping center, provides one of the most telling examples of the particular trouble facing real estate owners and their lenders after Sept. 11.

A judge in Hennepin County District Court in Minneapolis granted the mall's owner, Simon Property Group, a temporary restraining order last week to prevent GMAC Commercial Mortgage Corp. from forcing the mall to buy a separate terrorism insurance policy as a con-

dition of its lending agreement.

Simon is disputing whether it should have to buy the policy because what terrorism insurance is available is limited and expensive, a cost that would be passed on to tenants.

Although the Mall of America case is one of the first to involve a high-profile property in a legal dispute over terrorism insurance, lenders and property owners across the country are facing similar problems caused by a lack of available coverage — an issue that rose from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Because commercial real estate drives so much of business in any community — primarily through tax revenue and job creation — financial experts predict the fallout from the insurance issue could spread much farther than the real estate and lending communities.

2002 Winter Olympic Games Medal Standings



Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Germany	12	16	7	35
USA	10	13	11	34
Norway	11	7	6	24
Canada	6	3	8	17
Russia	6	6	4	16
Austria	2	4	10	16
Italy	4	4	4	12
France	4	5	2	11
Switzerland	3	2	6	11
Netherlands	3	5	0	8
China	2	2	4	8
Finland	4	2	1	7
Sweden	0	2	4	6
Croatia	3	1	0	4
South Korea	2	2	0	4
Estonia	1	1	1	3
Great Britain	1	0	2	3
Bulgaria	0	1	2	3
Australia	2	0	0	2
Spain	2	0	0	2
Czech Republic	1	0	1	2
Japan	0	1	1	2
Poland	0	1	1	2
Slovenia	0	0	1	1
Belarus	0	0	1	1

Source: espn.go.com

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OPINION

Two Possible Crowding Solutions



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Editorial

The housing crunch has left MIT in a jam that cannot possibly be resolved without making at least some students unhappy. Presently, the administration is considering two plans to accommodate next year's move to housing all undergraduates on campus: a "senior segue" initiative and donating space to sororities without houses.

The latter plan proposes that MIT's two non-residential sororities, Alpha Epsilon Phi and Kappa Alpha Theta, could each be given a section of a graduate residence to use as a house. Though it sounds simple, it brings up a number of complicated details. If sorority members are given the choice to live in the "house" or to remain in their current dormitories, the plan may not go smoothly. Sorority members do not just have ties to their sisters, but also to their current dorm residences. Many may be reluctant to leave their friends for a new location. Sorority members have said that they might have enough support for the option under the right circumstances, but those may not be met. Considering the direness of the situation, would sororities be forced to move enough members into the "house" even if unwilling?

The plan would guarantee a group of people with common goals establishing a second community inside the dorm. It may ease the move, but it may also cause rifts between the two communities. Another question would be what to do after the crunch

is solved. Would the sororities continue to live in the graduate dorms or would MIT help them locate a new house? It should be noted that finding separate houses for the two sororities right now would alleviate much of MIT's housing woes without angering the graduate population.

The "senior segue" option would give seniors who wish to continue as MEng students the option of guaranteed housing in a graduate dorm. There are about 200 MEng students in each class, which would fit well with the current 150 person overflow presently. Since this program does not require a block of student participation, it would be much easier to manage and adapt to changing times. The program is also more credible for permanent installation than the sorority plan. It does, however, create an imbalance in the undergraduate dorms. MIT's undergraduate residential policy is geared towards having an equal number of students from each class populate each dorm, a rarity that would be diminished by this program.

The Tech prefers the MEng plan, but recognizes that there may be better ideas yet unspoken. In addition, Sidney-Pacific would be the best venue for "senior segue" plan. While the apartment-style complex is unusual for undergraduate housing, the timing is impeccable. Since the dorm will open next year, this will not disrupt any previously established communities aside from those that the undergraduates would leave, and the plan might even allow new communities to be established more easily.



Letters To The Editor

Choose to Give Workers a Voice

"It's your choice." That's the catchy slogan of a new ad campaign recently unveiled by the Star Market chain and its parent company, Shaw's Supermarkets.

Unfortunately, it appears that this choice does not extend to Star employees who consider joining the United Food and Commercial Workers International union (UFCW). The National Labor Board, an agency of the federal government, has issued a complaint against Shaw's for alleged violations of United States labor laws.

The well-documented violations include showing anti-union videos to new hires, posting anti-union literature in break rooms and holding one-on-one meetings with employees to discourage support for the UFCW. Union organizers have repeatedly

been removed from store parking lots while other groups were openly soliciting — a clear violation of the National Labor Relations Act of 1935.

These organizers were simply trying to distribute pamphlets comparing the salaries of Star Market's non-union employees with the unionized workers at Shaw's stores in Local 791 (Southeastern Massachusetts). Among the most dramatic differences: a unionized, full-time worker pays \$5 a week for family health care coverage; his or her non-union counterpart pays \$45.98 per week.

After learning about these differences, it's hard to imagine many Star employees deciding that they don't want to unionize; perhaps that's why management is actively spreading disinformation and intimidating workers from even speaking to union representatives. But the workers at Star Market deserve to choose freely whether they wish to join the UFCW. For this to happen, store management must declare neutrality and allow employees to receive information and freely discuss issues in the workplace.

MIT students represent a large portion of Star Market's business, especially at the University Park and Prudential stores, and we can play an important role in demonstrating to the store management that this anti-union behavior is unacceptable. Phone calls and letters to Shaw's CEO Ross McLaren are one way to voice your opinion.

On Friday, March 1, a rally is planned outside the Prudential store; a group of MIT students will be meeting at 4:15 p.m. on the steps of 77 Massachusetts Avenue to head over there together. Everyone is invited to take part in this event to help ensure that, at the supermarkets where we shop, the workers do indeed have a choice of their own.

Jesse Barnes '02
Student Labor Action Project (SLAP)

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The Cambridge-MIT Institute And Cultural Challenges

Guest Column
Jason H. Wasfy

A few weeks ago, I rented a car and drove from Oxford to Cambridge to visit a dear friend of mine from MIT who is studying as a junior-year exchange student in the first full-blown year of the new Cambridge-MIT Institute. I was eager to hear about her impressions of the differences between MIT and Cambridge. What she told me surprised me. Not what she told me about her own experiences — what was more provoking was what she told me about how the Cambridge students were adapting to MIT.

Part of the problem, apparently, is something MIT officials had realized would come up as early as last year, although as far as I know they didn't acknowledge the concern publicly. Since MIT in general is so under-invested in undergraduate education and especially in undergraduate advising, the Cambridge students are uncomfortable making the transition from the interactive education so characteristic of Cambridge to the impersonal lectures and lack of meaningful contact so common to classes in most MIT departments.

I was interested to learn more about how MIT and Cambridge were matching up in this first year of full partnership. At a reception last week at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, I found an opportunity to hear an outside perspective when the vice-chancellor of Oxford began heralding the benefits of the recent partnership between Oxford and Princeton. "Which do you think is a better match," I

asked the vice-chancellor, the top man at Oxford, "this Oxford-Princeton partnership or the Cambridge-MIT Institute?"

He replied that he thinks the Oxford-Princeton relationship will work more smoothly because the two institutions share more common values, including an emphasis on undergraduate education. Cambridge's need to translate its top-notch engineering and science programs into economic development and innovation in the private sector, the vice-chancellor said, drove Cambridge and MIT together — not common values. In fact, Cambridge's need to create a broader technology sector in

Cambridge's need to translate top-notch engineering and science into innovation in the private sector drove Cambridge and MIT together, not common values. The need to create a broader technology sector is so acute that MIT didn't pay one cent for CMI.

Britain is so acute that the British government paid for the entire Cambridge-MIT Institute. MIT didn't pay one cent.

But then the vice-chancellor went one step further. Because of intense British government pressure, the establishment of the Cambridge-MIT Institute resembled a "shotgun wedding."

Now pointing out potential challenges in the new relationship between two overseas universities is one matter. But a well-informed observer comparing that relationship to the forced marriage of a pregnant girl and her boyfriend is quite another.

His comment underscores the major cultural challenges that the Cambridge-MIT Institute

has faced and will continue to face. The problems are certainly not limited to MIT's general lack of focus on the undergraduate program. One eminent professor at MIT who I know well was considering spending time at Cambridge through the faculty exchange but decided against that move because she knew that her highly interdisciplinary work would not mesh well with the rigid disciplinary boundaries at Cambridge. Another problem is that since few MIT students historically have studied abroad, departments at MIT are going to have to struggle to develop reasonable and consistent policies for accepting Cambridge course credit.

And one of the most confounding problems is that whatever institutional reform Cambridge requires to move into the new century, MIT people shouldn't count on reform anytime soon. The structure of Oxford and Cambridge — with their decentralized college systems and maze of inertia-prone faculty governance rules — makes reform almost impossible for central administrators.

I don't mean to cast doubt on this new program, because I think it's a wonderful idea. But both Cambridge and MIT need to reflect soberly on the challenges that this year has brought and think creatively about how both institutions can smooth out the program's rough spots.

What may turn out to prove so wonderful about the Cambridge-MIT Institute is that it will force both institutions to reconsider central goals and purposes that have gone unchallenged for too long. Maybe the Cambridge-MIT Institute will even force MIT to fix its serious flaws in undergraduate departmental advising — and that's a worthy goal that my columns on this page certainly never have attained.

Jason H. Wasfy '01 is a Marshall Scholar and a graduate student in politics at New College, Oxford.

Fourth West And 1984

Jed Horne

War is peace. Freedom is slavery. Ignorance is strength. Suspicion is confidence?

Orwell himself couldn't have scripted it better. On Monday, Feb. 4, Fourth West was called to a meeting with Carol Orme-Johnson, assistant dean for student conflict resolution and discipline, and Chief of Police John DiFava to discuss "the situation" which arose when a marijuana plant was found growing in a student's room during an IAP fire alarm.

I should have known that when deans need assistants and the discovery of marijuana in a student's room is referred to as "the situation," I should dust off my copy of 1984 and get prepped for some translating.

The penalty, it was decreed, depends on how willing we are to play ball: unless we as a "community" come together around this issue, establish ourselves as mediators of "the situation," and discuss further infractions with the proper authorities, the next mistake by anyone will result in a punish-

Does the administration care about us? The facts suggest otherwise: the aforementioned student had slipped through the cracks of MIT Mental Health, had been caught before, and should have been disciplined earlier.

ment for the entire hall — possibly including expulsion from MIT housing.

Translated: "Rat on each other. The best way to handle a problem we administrators are unwilling to confront is to sow mistrust and fear. Why use a Band-Aid when an amputation will do?"

So as not to confuse those used to misreading statements, let me state outright: this is not a challenge to the legitimacy of the school's jurisdiction, or the guilt of anyone involved. What happened was not "an isolated incident," but the product of a laissez-faire atmosphere and perhaps intentionally lax enforcement of MIT's otherwise reasonable policy regarding drugs and alcohol.

It is, however, a challenge to the legitimacy of the punishment. And while my hallmates and I may be guilty of the occasional toke or swallow, hypocrisy, it appears, is the special preserve of assistant deans. Here I may be speaking only for myself, but what is wrong with good old-fashioned punishment? It's not like the administration has any lack of good evidence, or, apparently, any lack of desire to make us feel its wrath. Clearly what had developed was a problem, and, as I think Chief DiFava eloquently attested, the administrators were in no position to just let it slide. The student who was arrested was punished accordingly, so why not apply that standard consistently to further infractions?

We were told, however, that the result "could have been a lot worse." Punishment is leniency.

A little bit of rational analysis clears up the issue here. Does the administration care about us? The facts suggest otherwise: the aforementioned student had slipped through the cracks of MIT Mental Health, had been caught before, and should have been disciplined earlier. A consistent and coherent administrative response from the git-go would make their stance easier to tolerate now. Instead, I feel like a kulan threatened with a trip to a re-education camp. It's for my own good, of course.

As I am sure Dean Orme-Johnson must have learned in one of her social work classes, community is based on trust. So are we truly to believe that by spying on each other we are building community? Are we really not being punished by an administrator who has the arrogance to claim that she is allowing us to make decisions for ourselves?

Translated: "We don't like the way you live. Get with the program and move out before we make you."

I think I'd easier stomach a fifth of Stolichnaya than those tasty bits of Newspeak.

Inappropriate Use of the V-word

Maral Shamloo

I was rather unsure about the state of my feelings when I walked out of Little Kresge on Wednesday night. I was neither excited nor depressed. I was not happy about what I heard and saw, but I wasn't frustrated either. I wasn't touched or inspired, nor did I feel any more strongly about violence against women. All I know is that I was embarrassed and maybe disappointed as well.

Let me begin by saying that none of what follows is an attempt to undermine the performance and hard work of directors, producers or actors of the show. On the contrary, I found the performances very powerful and original. What I find questionable however is the content of the show. I learned many new facts in those two hours; about my physique; about how other people think of their bodies; about how much more special a vagina can be to a woman than any other part of her body. I learned that people enjoy talking about sexual issues and how they are embarrassed to acknowledge this fact. And exactly for that reason, a show called "The Vagina Monologues" would attract far more people than "The Kidney Monologues" would, for instance.

I learned and heard things that I am not sure I wanted to know. I am not sure if I should even be allowed to know about some of the most private and personal feelings of women, feelings that reveal their most hidden and protected folds and layers. I don't feel comfortable knowing about the most intimate details of a woman's experiences and relationships being shared with an audience. There are feelings that I think women should be allowed to discover themselves. Feelings that are unique to each individual.

I felt embarrassed. I felt awkward. Awkward about hearing the words I had always

thought of as unutterable, at least in that medium; words that I thought that I have always been told were not meant to be said in public. I felt embarrassed seeing that the male audience found some of the acts funny or interesting. I hated seeing how the inappropriate choice of words caused people to be stimulated by what was meant to be an action to stop violence against women.

But that was the whole point of the show, said a friend. To talk about issues you feel uncomfortable with. I wonder though how that could be favorable. All of us are told from very early ages, that we are not supposed to use cer-

I don't feel comfortable knowing about the most intimate details of a woman's experiences and relationships being shared with an audience. There are feelings that women should be allowed to discover themselves. Feelings unique to each individual.

tain words: the f-word, the s-word, there are tons of them. Nobody disputes that the use of these expressions in speech is inappropriate. Nobody would argue that these are words with certain physical meanings and we should not try to deny their existence.

But that is not the issue; we are not supposed to use certain words because we wish to respect our listeners, not because we trying to deny they exist. I hope the reader agrees that the use of words that are considered to be taboo in our daily conversations would certainly not educate people; quite the contrary, it would be considered impudent and obnoxious.

The very same reasoning applies to discussions about certain feelings and certain parts of our bodies. Why should very personal feelings that some women have about their bodies, feelings that developed based on very specific experiences they have gone through in their lives, be stereotyped, collected and presented as a beginners' course in vagina familiarization?

In the director's notes we read: Unfortunately, since many people can't bear to hear or say the word "vagina," many women with stories like these — human stories — have kept silent about experiences which have affected them more profoundly than the stories they can tell that don't involve any taboo words. I have been trying very hard to think of a way that sharing these stories would benefit women. I would like to ask the director how he thinks being comfortable with saying or hearing the word "vagina" could help prevent violence against women? Do we really believe that rapists — actual or potential — would be affected, touched or moved hearing

these stories? That they would regret their actions? Don't they — and the rest of audience for that matter — already know that raping a woman will hurt her both physically and emotionally? Wouldn't presenting women's sufferings and their female-specific feelings just make them more exposed and vulnerable?

My biggest fear, however, throughout the show and afterwards was to think that "The Vagina Monologues" were so well-received just because people enjoy talking about certain issues in such a presumptuous and bold way. Protecting Women is a title to justify it. A thought that sends a shiver down my spine.

**Do you have something to say?
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THE ARTS

FILM REVIEW

Britney ROCKS!

She's so Lucky, She's a Star

By Megan Ginter

Crossroads

Written by Shonda Rhimes

Directed by Tamra Davies

Starring Britney Spears, Kim Cattrall, Dan Ackroyd

PG-13

Crossroads is the edgiest film of the year! Britney Spears outdoes herself by smashing apart her pristine image! She swears! She drinks alcohol! She has sex! I bet you \$100 she will be nominated for an Oscar next year. Really!

The film starts out with three little girls burying a box of their goals for the future. Aww, how sweet! They swear they will always be friends and on the night of their graduation, they will dig up the box and see if their dreams have come true. Flash forward to high school graduation.

Shockingly, the girls have grown into very different people. Mimi (Taryn Manning) is total white trash. Not only does she wear a Boy Scout shirt to prom, but of course, she is pregnant just like all the other trailer-trash teenage girls. Kit (Zoe Saldana) is a bitchy, popular, pampered princess with a loser fiancé. Oh, but we can't hate her since the only reason she's mean is her mom is mean to her! Finally, Lucy (Britney Spears) has, naturally, become the nerdy valedictorian who is planning to become a doctor, despite her musical talent. No really, she's a total nerd loser. I mean, all geeks dress like they just stepped out of a fashion magazine, right? Hey, she almost has sex with her best friend Henry (Justin Long), and look how geeky HE is!

Despite their separation over the years, the girls meet up to open the box and talk about their dreams. Even though Mimi and Kit hate each other (a princess could never hang out with a dirty pregnant girl! EW!), the girls decide to take a road trip out west for different reasons. Lucy wants to meet her mother who abandoned her fami-



—RICHARD FOREMAN

Kit (Zoe Saldana), Mimi (Taryn Manning) and Lucy (Britney Spears) bond on their road trip in *Crossroads*.

ly, Kit wants to see her fiancé at UCLA, and Mimi dreams of being the first pregnant pop star. The girls hop in the car with Mimi's bad-boy friend Ben (Anson Mount) who looks a lot like an orangutan. Teehee, there's some flirting between Ben and Lucy! What a cute couple they would make!

Many adventures ensue on the car trip. The girls bond through N*SYNC sing-a-longs and giggling. The car breaks down and they are short on funds. Oh no! Luckily they make hundreds of dollars in tips doing a boring karaoke rendition of "I Love Rock and Roll." Oddly, Ben is upset about having to share his car and hotel rooms with a bunch of girls. It seems like a straight male's dream to

me. Don't worry though, Ben gets laid in the end. Lucy meets her estranged mom (Kim Cattrall), who is, surprisingly, not a crack whore, but still a cold-hearted bitch. Lucy is sad. Ben writes a song for a poem Lucy wrote that, strangely, just happens to sound exactly like "I'm Not a Girl, Not Yet a Woman." Not only does this cheer Lucy up, it turns out to be a really good way for Ben to get laid. Blah, blah, more ups and downs, the girls get to L.A., decide to audition as a music group, Lucy breaks free of her dad's control and grows up. The end.

GO! See *Crossroads*! You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll sing and dance, you'll get to see Britney in a pair of little boy's BVDs. And, oh yeah, this movie sucks.

FILM REVIEW★

Gutter Ball

Don't Waste Your Time; Watch the Olympics

By Brian Loux

NEWS EDITOR

Rollerball

Written by William Harrison

and Larry Ferguson

Directed by John McTiernan

Starring Chris Klein, Jean Reno, LL Cool J

Rated PG-13

To really comprehend the atrocity of *Rollerball*, my friend insists that you must see the original movie made in 1975 or read the short story upon which they are both loosely based. "Cult classics" is far too lenient and forgiving a term for the movie's predecessors. You'd

think the series couldn't sink much lower than that.

Someone should get the camera guy a real job. Some really inventive camerawork, like the foreign news programs for transitions and one scene done in night vision, is completely wasted by the lack of material with which he had to work.

The only admirable aspect of the movie is the use of WWF personalities in the movie (coming from an ardent WWF fan). The use of commentator Paul Heyman as the Rollerball League's announcer (who is wisely given more screentime than the most of the main characters that cannot act) and the odd two-second shot of Shane McMahon for

no apparent reason, are feeble attempts to appeal to the target audience. WWF fans would be wise to stay home and quadruple the night's entertainment level with an episode of *Smackdown*.

Ironically, director John McTiernan (*Predator*) makes the same mistakes that the WWF writers and the movie's villain Petrovich (Jean Reno, *Ronin*) make. Here is a game so vicious, so spectacular, so appealing to its audience that those in charge believe it will sell itself. And if it will sell itself, there's no need to put any effort into the details.

McTiernan decides character development shouldn't be dealt with. So instead we get a parade of stereotypes. There's the roguish hometown Boy Scout cowboy (Chris Klein, *American Pie*), the man who ignores the corruption to feed his family (LL Cool J), the hot chick (Rebecca Romijn-Stamos), the soulless capitalist who also controls half the impoverished nations in some "axis of corporate evil," the brutes on the opposing

teams who maim on corporate command but then do an about face when our hero decides to fight the system, and finally the mindless crowd who can instantly see (exactly when the movie needs them to) the depth to which the corporation is controlling and corrupting their lives.

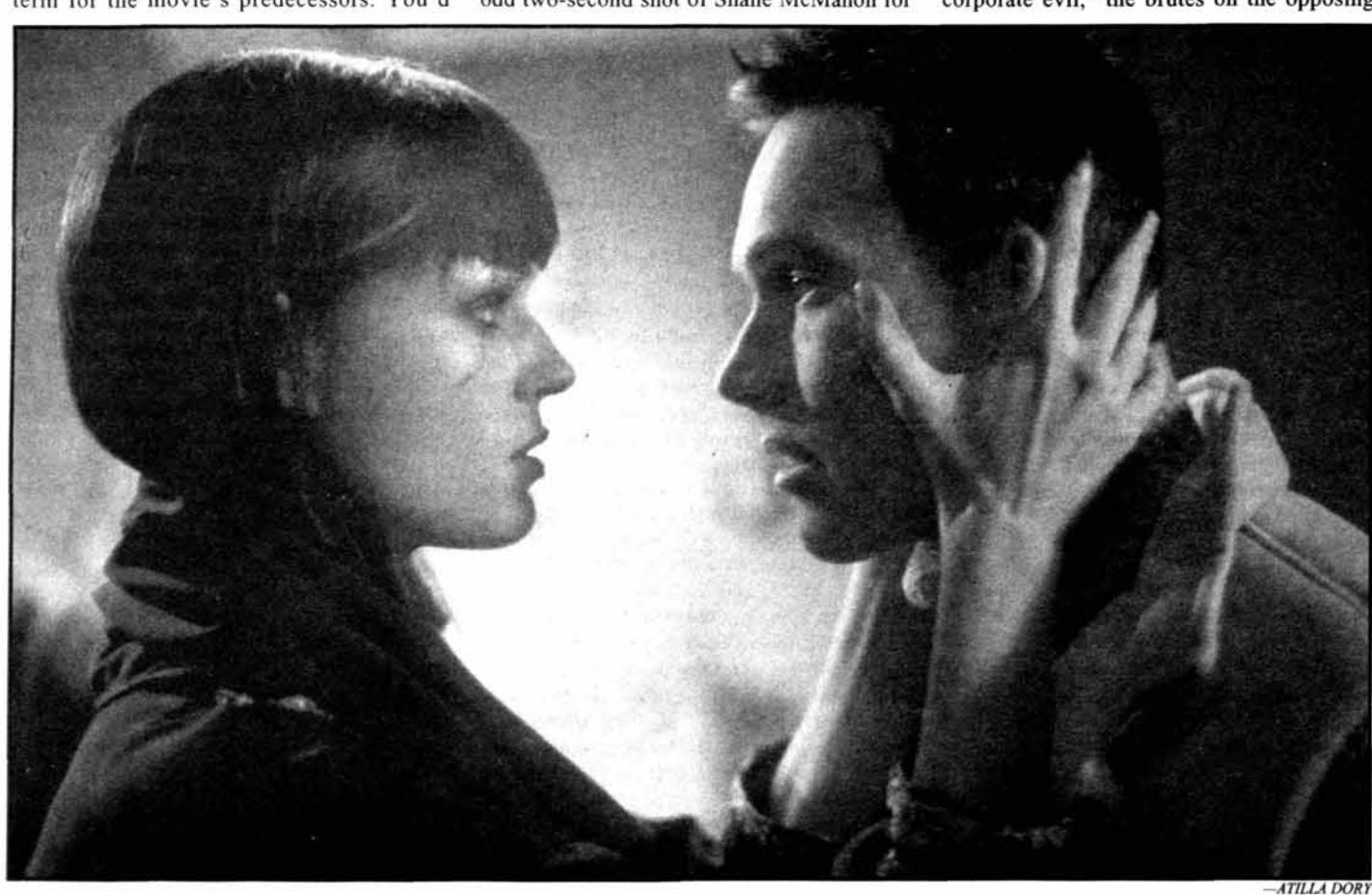
Plot congruity, plot understandability, and finally plot existence follow character development down the toilet. As Heyman says about this sport in the beginning of the movie, "Well, there's a goal to throw the ball into, and the other rules are in Russian and pages long and they really don't matter."

So what about the stuff that McTiernan and Petrovich know you came for? It's just as sorry as the rest. Petrovich comes to realize that the ratings for his show are deplorable. Maybe that's because of the way McTiernan makes them the antithesis of both hardcore and fun. Sure, people get hit and ride on motorbikes and rollerblades, but most of the action scenes are mediocre and repetitive, especially slow-motion flying motorcycles. To top it off, the action is so horribly jumbled you can't even figure out what's going on. The rest of the in-game scenes are actually just Klein, Stamos, and LL Cool J (who are somehow out of harm's way) conversing and dragging out an embarrassingly thin plot.

Stamos? Go buy last year's *Sports Illustrated* magazine. I guess there was a no-seductiveness clause in the contract, because for most of the movie she looks pale and sickly enough for a Sally Struthers charity infomercial. There is only one very unsexy makeout session with Klein and a few heavily airbrushed shots of her in a dark locker room. For the rest of the movie she poorly plays an angry biker or a helpless damsel, both fully clothed.

Car chases or other action scenes? There really aren't many, and what is there isn't memorable except for its ridiculousness. If you can believe a motorcycle carrying our two heroes can make it down a steep embankment but an off-road jeep will flip end over end, you deserve to be robbed of nine dollars.

So what do you do when you realize the show isn't entertaining? Well, for Petrovich the answer is to add real injuries to the show's repertoire in hopes that the ratings go up and draw the ire of the good guys. But for you, the movie viewer, the answer is to leave the theatre and maybe catch a little Olympic curling for a change of pace.



—ATILLA DORY

Rebecca Romijn-Stamos and Chris Klein star as Aurora and Jonathan Cross in the action/thriller *Rollerball*.

THEATER REVIEW

The Vagina Monologues

There's Nothing Like This in Tax Law



SCOTT JOHNSTON—THE TECH

Jovonne J. Bickerstaff '02 delivers a monologue entitled "Hair" as part of Eve Ensler's play, "The Vagina Monologues." Performances were Feb. 20-22 in Kresge Little Theatre.

By Amy Meadows

STAFF WRITER

Coordinated by Ruth Perlmutter '04.

Directed by Adam Glassman '02, Usman Akeju '04, Marcus Lopez '05, and Whitney Boesel '03.

Produced by Richa Maheshwari '04, Ruth Perlmutter '04, and Shereen Katrak '04.

Controversy draws a crowd. All week in Lobby 10, the voices of volunteers working with *The Vagina Monologues* rang out, "Vaginas! Get your vaginas here!" They were selling chocolate vaginas, of course, but the shock tactic worked. Not only did the booth attract the crowd of interested students, but the production itself in Little Kresge was completely sold out.

The excessive attention is quite a feat considering that *The Vagina Monologues* is not the typical popular play: it has no music or plot, and stark staging. Instead, it relies on compelling shorts that blend together into a tapestry of experiences. The premise comes from interviews that were conducted with women from all over the globe about their individual experiences. As the "Introduction" monologue explains, "Women secretly love to talk about their vaginas." A few of the survey questions and sample answers were included in the play itself: If your vagina got dressed, what would it wear? If your vagina could talk, what would it say? What does your vagina smell like?

Other segments were dedicated to "Vagina Facts." Michelle A. Tiu's '05 "Outrageous Vagina Fact" included states in which it is currently illegal to sell a vibrator. She remarked that in each one selling guns is "perfectly legal" and that "we have yet to hear of a mass murder committed with a vibrator."

However, the majority of the play was dedicated to stories from individual women. Many were tinged with humor or sadness; there was no typical experience. In fact, each character's monologue was uniquely individual in a way that merely talking about another body part couldn't be.

For instance, in "The Flood," graduate student Kathryn E. Miller's character is a 72-year-old woman who reveals her Burt Reynolds fantasies and expresses her reluctance to talk about her "down there" by protesting that it is like the cellar of a house. You know you have one, she says, but you do not go "down there."

In "My Angry Vagina," Erin R. Rhode '04 listed the numerous ways her vagina was fed up with its current state of being. With unequalled sass and spunk, Rhode laid out her character's reasons for having an angry vagina. As conceptualized by the character, a more vagina-friendly world would eliminate tampons, thong underwear, and the iciness of visits to the gynecologist.

Melissa S. Cain '04 depicted an Afghan woman who had been reduced to begging when the Taliban executed her husband in "Under the Burqa." "Imagine you could no longer distinguish between life and death," Cain said while in character, "so you stop trying to kill yourself because it would be redundant." While the material was weighty, Cain handled the role deftly, giving it subtly and texture.

In a monologue that explored the mass rape of Bosnian women as an instrument of war, Shereen S. Katrak '04 contrasted her perception of her vagina before and after being gang-raped and tortured for days. Katrak's expressions during her monologue mirrored and gave more meaning to her words.

The penultimate monologue, the one of Liana A. Metzger '03, had many in the audience laughing to the verge of hyperventilation. In "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy," Metzger portrayed a sex worker who worked exclusively with women. Although the character had started out as a lawyer, "There was nothing like this in tax law ... there was no moaning." Explaining further that she helped women to find their unique moan, Metzger proceeded to explain some of the more common types, including the WASP moan, the semi-religious moan, and the surprise triple orgasm moan. While the names may cause some chuckles, Metzger's impressions were outrageous.

Other monologues included one from a six-year-old (Alice H. Wang WC '03), a lesbian homeless woman (Huanne T. Thomas '02), and the author, Eve Ensler (Richa Maheshwari '04). Because the play is a collection of individuals and their stories, there is no easy way to describe the total production in terms of something other than the individual roles. Each of the actresses brought something completely different to her character, and the effect was nothing less than synergy.

THE ARTS

RESTAURANT GUIDE

Good Swill Hunting

A Foodie's Guide to Eating and Drinking in Boston and Beyond

By Winnie Yang

STAFF WRITER

There are some of us that eat to live and then there are those of us that live to eat. Being notorious for a food obsession some might consider extreme, I am frequently mistaken for a food snob. Quite the contrary, in fact, I am the least picky eater I know. I'll eat just about anything — as long as it's good. Unfortunately, there are those that would interject here, protesting that one can't possibly eat well all the time, that one simply can't afford to. Such people simply confuse Good Food with its very distant relative Fancy Food, or with the completely unrelated and often total stranger, Expensive Food. While I am not averse to ordering the pan-seared flank of wildebeest with ossetra caviar-fennel gelée and blood orange foam, sometimes there's nothing better than Easy Cheese on Wheat Thins.

As a foodie, I often go to great lengths to find a good meal and I devote an inordinate amount of time and attention to what I eat (see my Web page for proof). Knowing this, many people often come to me for suggestions and recommendations, and nothing pleases me more than sharing my discoveries with others. That is, one of the few things possibly better than eating is telling other people what to eat.

In my years at MIT, I've managed to compile a sizeable list of favorites — some close to home, others a bit out of the way. This is by no means a comprehensive list, as I'm still in the process of eating my way through the city. And by all means, if you feel I've missed something worth mentioning, send me an e-mail. In no particular order:

Coffee ice cream sandwich is the best ice cream flavor at **Tosci's**. There are those proud and vocal members of the burnt caramel camp as well, but I remain steadfast.

Grilled Buffalo chicken sandwich at **Courses**, with a slice of provolone and extra hot sauce on the side.

#17 (small) and #31 (with beef and the flat rice noodles) at the Harvard Square **Pho Pasteur**.

The Green Lady (salmon filet with creamy, spicy curry) and **country-style pad thai** at **Brown Sugar Café** (Fenway).

Chocolate chip scone at the **MIT Cofeehouse**.

The honey barbecue chicken sub with a slice of cheese and the **BLT** on wheat with mayo at **LaVerde's**.

The Story at **Darwin's** (Harvard Square). A definitive sandwich best eaten perched on a stool at the butcher block tables. **The Mount Auburn** with swiss comes in at a close second.

The foie gras and warm chocolate pudding at **Clio** (Back Bay). Both velvety and rich. Both revelatory.

Miracle of Science does a mean veggie burger. Best washed down with a **Magic Hat no. 9**.

Octopus salad at **Atasca** (Kendall Square). Briny and tender, this is one tasty cephalopod.

I still haven't summoned the courage to try a piece of one of those gargantuan cakes, but if I ever feel like I could pass up the **blueberry pancakes** at **Greenhouse Café** (Harvard), maybe I will. Not too dense or too fluffy, these pancakes have nicely crisped edges and are loaded with berries.

Xiaolongbao at **Taiwan Café** (Chinatown). I haven't yet figured out how to eat these Shanghai-style soup dumplings without scalding myself or spilling half the contents onto my lap, but they keep me coming back to this little hole-in-the-wall. The **oyster pancakes**, though not like Mom's, are not to be missed. **Salt and pepper pork** is quite tasty as well.

The **Il Panino panini** at **Il Panino Express** (North End), like the **Darwin's Story**, combines the holy trinity of prosciutto, fresh mozzarella and tomatoes, but stuffs generous amounts of everything into a foot-long crusty Italian loaf slathered with a fruity and robust EVOO.

The **Superburrito** at **Anna's Taqueria**. Apparently, some journalist for the **New York Times** took the four-hour Chinatown shuttle from Manhattan to Boston and back solely for one of these burritos. I personally find that completely ridiculous, but only because it's hard to believe that there are no better burritos to be found in New York City. It is pretty damn good, though.

Crème brûlée at **The Dish** (South End).

I wouldn't recommend anything else though.

Hirokimayaki at **Kiyoshi** (Brookline): the proprietor's version of that delectable Osakan specialty, okonomiyaki. The menu claims these pan-fried noodles are "healthy," but somehow, the shiny slick coating the noodles under that generous drizzling of mayonnaise leaves me thinking otherwise. The **chicken skin** and **chicken bone yakitori** also get the thumbs up.

Bertucci's rolls.

Potato pancakes and **banana-stuffed challah French toast** at **Zaftigs Delicatessen** (Brookline). Everyone seems to offer a version of challah French toast, but none do it like the fat lady. The **borscht** is also a winner.

Belgian waffle at **Neighborhood Bakery and Café** (Union Square, Somerville). Comes with the most delicious bowl of **Cream of Wheat** you'll ever taste.

Lemon and sugar crepes at **Le Gamin** (South End). Also, the **butter and sugar crepes**.

N6 at **Rod Dee II** (Fenway): pan-fried rice noodles that are all greasy goodness. I'm also a big fan of the **golden triangles** here.

Butternut squash soup at **Salts** (Kendall). None better.

I have yet to find better lamb than the **gigot à sept heures** at **Metro** (Porter Square). In fact, there are few meat preparations offered in this city that could rival Amanda Lydon's supernal dish.

Some people go to **Wuchon House** (Union Square, Somerville) for their **bulgogi** or the **kalbi**; I'm there for the **tofu chigae**. You know Korean food's good when the sweat starts pouring and your nose starts running.

#1 at Boston Bánh Mì (Chinatown). Bánh mi (pronounced "bahn-mee," where "bahn" is like the French pronunciation of "champagne") is one of the few miraculous results of colonialism: a Vietnamese sandwich that combines tangy pickled carrots and cucumbers with a rich pork pâté and slices of ham and other lunchmeats, all on a crusty, buttery, slightly toasted French **baguette**. There are a multitude of versions, each with different fillings, but this is the standard.

Any kind of **korma** from **Bombay Café** (Back Bay/Symphony). Be sure to specify "as hot as your grandma makes it." Probably best to stick to delivery here.

The **egg tart** at **Ho Yuen Bakery** (Chinatown) has a tender, flaky crust and a silky custard filling with just a hint of sweetness. Yum.

Roti canai and **kangkung belacan** at **Penang** (Chinatown or Harvard). The first is an addictive, chewy fried bread, accompanied by a curry dipping sauce, while the other is sautéed greens (water convolvulus) dosed with the distinctive, pungent Malaysian shrimp sauce.

I've found that the greatest failing of most high-end restaurants is the pastry bread offering: usually cold, anemic rolls the consistency of a wet mop. The **breadbasket** at **Aujourd'hui** (Back Bay), however, comes stuffed with crispy asiago cheese bagel chips, soft and doughy pretzel knots, walnut raisin rolls redolent of cinnamon and sugar, and a lovely, savory onion focaccia—all straight-out-the-oven-toasty-warm.

Pearl milk tea at the **Chinatown Eatery**. The counter here is bedecked with signs listing dozens of flavors of smoothies, juices and teas, some of which come with those gummy — yet strangely appealing — marble-sized tapioca balls. The extra-wide straws are definitely the best part and make the perfect instrument for launching the balls at unsuspecting passers-by.

Best **flan**, hands down — **Tu Y Yo** (Powderhouse Square, in Somerville).

And last but not least, **Joyce Lee's kimchi-spam fried rice**. Best with a hastily chilled, soft and fruity white (preferably from Best Cellars).

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MUSIC REVIEW

Under Rug Swept

Morissette Makes Mediocre Self-Producing Debut

By Devdoot Majumdar

STAFF WRITER

Under Rug Swept
Alanis Morissette
Warner Brothers
Feb. 26, 2002

The other day, I noticed that Tom Wolfe's *A Man in Full* had found a place for itself in the "discount books" shelf of several bookstores. After several pangs of sadness, I realized that Wolfe's fame would probably sell the unappetizing book. And that's also when I realized that Alanis Morissette's latest album was destined for the exact same fate. Big name, forgettable work.

So Morissette comes out with the much-anticipated new album, even conjures up a little wit to snip into the title, *Under Rug Swept*. And then for about a year, the material writhes in disuse as she and her record label battle out the details. A publicity stunt later, her third album is out and my guess is that it'll probably take a gestation period of about two weeks or so to get over the one memorable track and start seeing Morissette's latest artistic endeavor in used CD shops.

Under Rug Swept is Morissette's first crack at the self-producing game, and she doesn't do a shabby job. Rather, the shabbiness manifests itself in the songwriting, which is unremarkable. Whereas a relaxed listen to all twelve tracks of her first album, *Jagged Little Pill*, was enjoyable, or at least appreciable, one discovers a "turn it off" reflex to *Under Rug Swept*.

Since January, the first single off the album, "Hands Clean" has found a captive radio audience. Retelling another confused and ambivalent relationship, "Hands Clean" features a subversively catchy melody; organically acoustic verses coupled with a louder, glamorous chorus; and an orchestral bridge. Lasting about four and a half minutes, it's perhaps the only redeeming chunk of the 11-song, 50-minute album.

"Hands Clean" is one of those inexorable songs that one finds the urge to repeat over and over indefinitely. After a month of repeat, it's



MSO PUBLICITY

Alanis Morissette uses subversively catchy melodies in her new CD *Under Rug Swept*.

vocal standpoint distinguishes her from her drab competitors. *Under Rug Swept* bears a few unsuccessful attempts at resurrecting the endearing honesty. "Narcissus" attempts to master "sweet rock" with a promising melody and a blasé opening resounding of stifled guitar. It is perhaps the second best song on the album, but with a sing-songy chorus and much unneeded complexity, the song isn't "radio ready."

All in all, the *Under Rug Swept* presents the latest progression in Morissette's musical stylings. Without "Hands Clean," the album is little more than a stepping stone to what this critic hopes is a more developed style. With the hit single, however, the album is destined for fans and those who enjoyed the vocal meanderings of her last album, *Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie*.

still much the enjoyable experience, but its excellence sadly belies the rest of the album.

The remaining 10 songs on the album are tainted with the ordinary. There's a saying in the music industry that to find a truly great song, you have to sandwich it in between the greats (Zepelin, Fiona, Spears). This album, except for the one notable exception, is quite sub-par in this respect.

"Flinch" unearths Morissette's whine, as she wails through a yawn

of a song to an unchanging acoustic drawl. "Precious Illusions" presents a similarly regrettable state of Alanis' musical yearnings, as does "That Particular Time" to a tinkering piano as Morissette's voice meanders in a style fitting for a live show.

And then there is the hard Alanis. We all remember "You Oughta Know" and the other rock escapades Morissette embarked upon in her first album. And we might even remember "Thank U" from her second album, *Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie*. Imagine this album to be the Hegelian synthesis of those two extremes.

Songs like "A Man," "21 Things I Want in a Lover," and "Surrendering" present a rocked-out Alanis with oddly wandering melodies. Granted, they harbor complexities that supersede three-chord rock'n'roll, but they're not appetizing either. Essentially, it's music only a fan of Morissette can enjoy by virtue of having lower standards for an artist one already enjoys (the Tom Wolfe effect, if you will).

Among Morissette's more salient characteristics are her candidness and ability to be sweet without being saccharine. Her uncautionary frankness from both a lyrical and

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Fajitas And 'Ritas

Decorative, Delicious, Delightful

By Eric Chemi

STAFF WRITER

Fajitas and 'Ritas

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Entrees \$6-8, appetizers \$2-3, desserts \$3-4
<<http://www.fajitasandritas.com>>

Near the grassy fields and open spaces of lively Boston Common is an entirely unique eating adventure. Entering Fajitas and 'Ritas, we found that the walls were completely covered in artwork: not framed paintings mounted on the walls, but rather a graffiti collection created by customers over the years. Thanks to crayons, markers and pens, the restaurant's walls convey a foreign and exotic feel, a feeling that the place is something special.

A waiter was already prepared for us and led us promptly to our booth. At least for lunch music lightly plays in the background and there are probably 10 to 15 customers at any one time. The place is likely packed on Friday and Saturday nights. A complementary helping of chips and salsa was served. The chips were warm and crunchy and the right shape for dipping, but the salsa was a bit on the watery side and could use more tomato flavor.

With the chips we were handed menus. A Fajitas and 'Ritas menu is not your ordinary open-and-close laminated booklet. Instead, it is a set of carbon-copy sheets with a check box by each food choice. We used the provided ballpoint pens to make our selections by checking off the appropriate boxes. It's an interesting way to set up a menu, and of course you don't have to worry about waiters coming to take your order before you are ready.

Within minutes our appetizer of steak nachos was served. My first thought was, "Wow, this place serves large portions." It was a good thing we were sharing. With guacamole, beans, sour cream, and lots of cheese, the nachos were definitely a hit. Overall nothing was too spicy, the chips were crunchy, and the nachos weren't crowded with nothing more than just the right amount of beans.

No worries about quickly disappearing food, though, because our main course was now ready to be served. Soon our main feast arrived: chicken burritos, rice, steak fajitas, and several quesadillas stuffed with chicken and cheese. Included with all this were tortillas, pico de gallo, and of course, lots of sour cream and guacamole. Each of us took a share of each item and began to enjoy the main event of our meal.

The quesadillas were a treat. They gave us several, each stocked with plenty of chicken and cheese. Unlike quesadillas at other restaurants, these did not contain too much on the side of extra spices, onions, and all those other extra items that tend to weigh down the meals. These quesadillas were simple and good.

The steak fajitas are served ready for the customer to assemble. We each took a flour tortilla and spoonfuls of steak, onions and peppers. We rolled everything up into its edible form and once again resumed the eating. The main problem with the fajitas was the excruciatingly low steak-to-vegetable ratio. Of course, the onions and peppers tasted alright, but steak fajitas without the steak is an inexcusable error.

By that point we were feeling somewhat full, but there were still burritos to be consumed. Taking responsibility for the group, I ate a little more than my fair share of rice and burritos, but they were definitely worth it. The burritos weren't special compared to other restaurants, but the chicken, pico de gallo, cheese, beans, and rice were all wrapped tightly together to prevent any chance of the contents falling out. The worst thing when eating a burrito is when it collapses due to an improperly folded tortilla, but this was definitely not the case here. My praises go out to whomever was wrapping burritos that day.

Overall, the food was great, and in general the steak was better than the chicken. The prompt and friendly staff definitely made the experience more rewarding and from the first minute we entered we always had something to eat. Vegetarian meals are entirely possible from the available choices. They also serve salads, chili, soups, desserts. More than half of their menu consists of alcoholic beverages (hence the 'Ritas in their name, short for margaritas). Most people can fill their stomachs for less than \$10. And if you do eat too much it's a really nice half hour walk to campus through the commons and along the river.

Undergraduate Association
Presents

Town Hall Meeting on Dining

Come here and react to the Campus Dining Board's recommendations regarding the dining system

Wednesday
February 27, 2002 7:00pm

Stratton Student Center
Main Lobby

February 26,
2002

COMICS FUN PAGES

The
Tech

Page
9

the Crass Rat

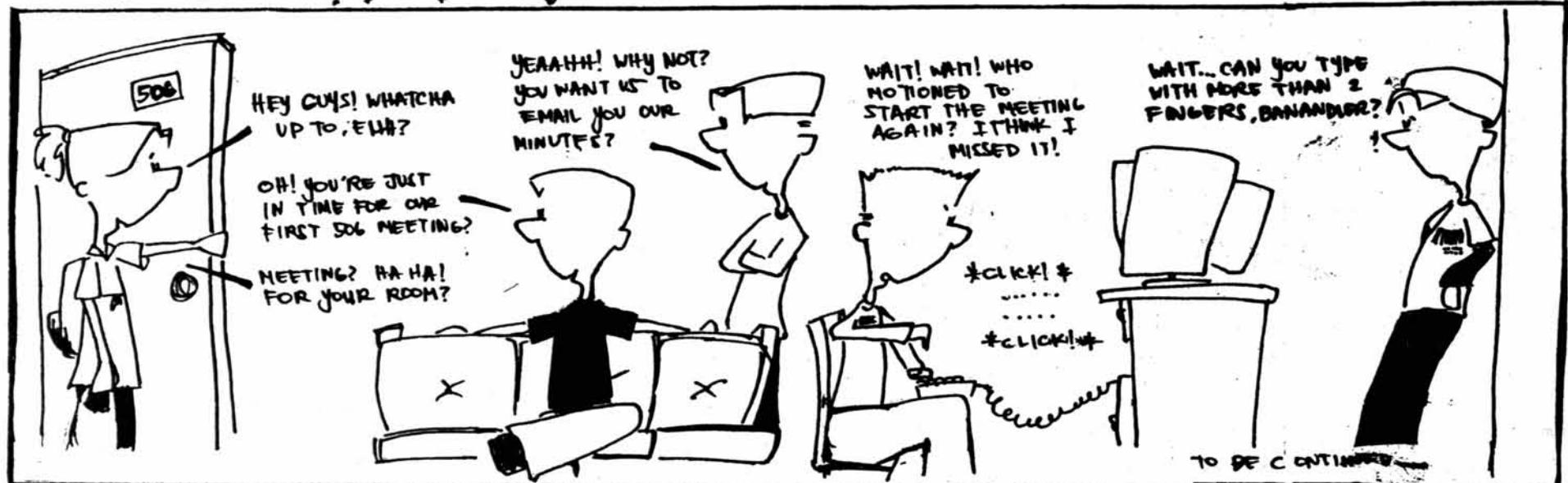


INTEGRAL FORCE

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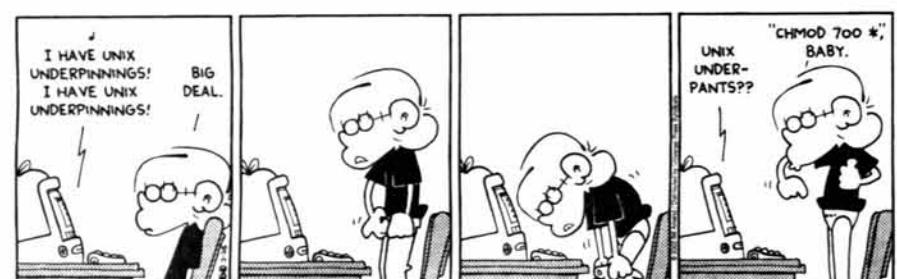
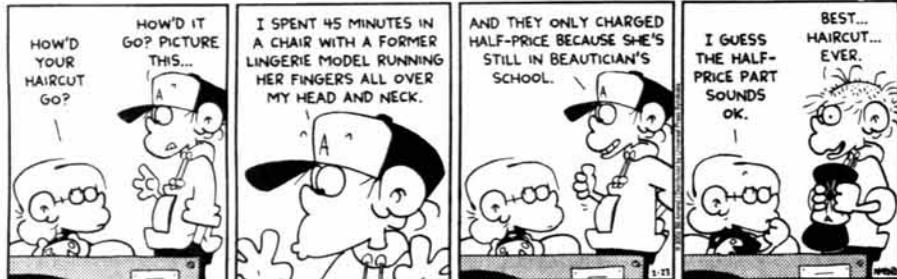


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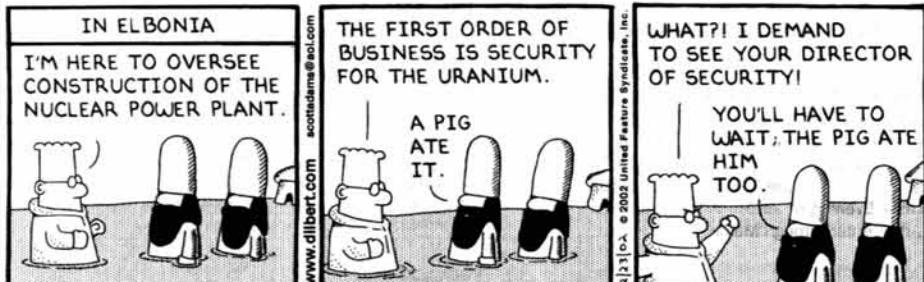
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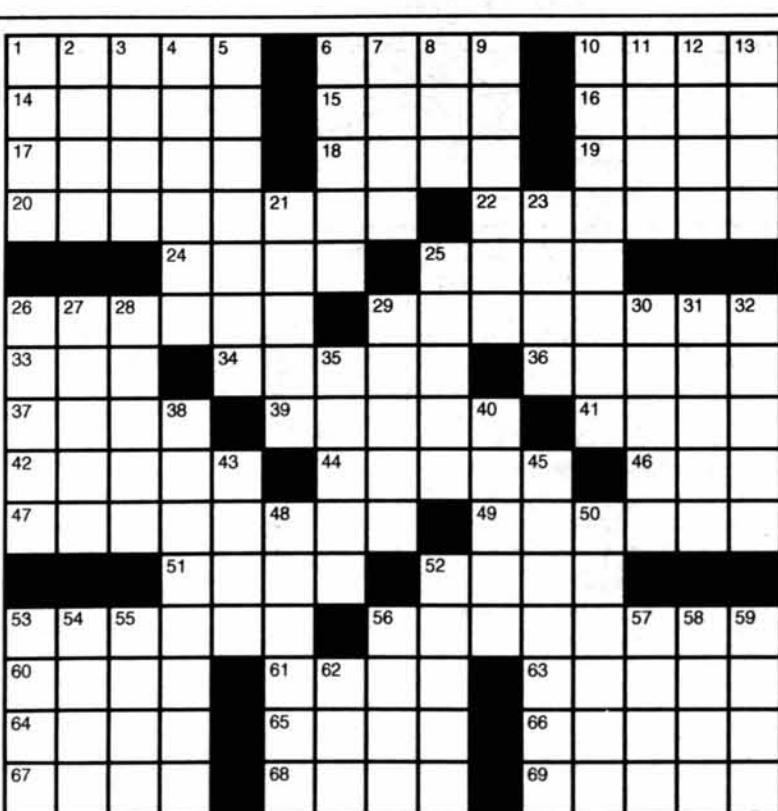
- 1 Stray dogs
- 6 The ___ Office
- 10 Sketch
- 14 Not savvy
- 15 Pre-stereo sound system
- 16 Paella base
- 17 Tuscany tourist city
- 18 Feed the pot
- 19 Baddie of lore
- 20 Some crystal glasses
- 22 Ran out
- 24 Author Tyler
- 25 State of mind
- 26 Unwrapped
- 29 Maine
- 33 Periphery
- 34 Ornamentation
- 36 More than willing
- 37 Rum cake
- 39 Sub detector
- 41 Engagement
- 42 Passive
- 44 Relate with a bias
- 46 Brooch
- 47 Bullfighter
- 49 Count (on)

DOWN

- 1 Tousle, as hair
- 2 Component piece
- 3 "Of ___ I Sing"
- 4 Inhabitant of Oz
- 5 Produced roe
- 6 Chicago hub
- 7 Clinging plant
- 8 Away from the prow
- 9 Hide out
- 10 Kind of gorgeous
- 11 Tractor-trailers
- 12 Farm plot
- 13 Undesirable plant

- 51 Pavarotti specialty
- 52 "Star Wars" knight
- 53 Team animal
- 56 Threshold
- 60 Suggestion beginning?
- 61 Flag down
- 63 Chopin piece
- 64 Dry
- 65 List-shortening abbr.
- 66 Scorch
- 67 Stallion's mate
- 68 Count (on)
- 69 Smooth and silky

- 21 Chilean range
- 23 Top-notch
- 25 Fable's lesson
- 26 Planetary path
- 27 Fats Waller's instrument
- 28 Glowing coal
- 29 Contributor
- 30 Slack-jawed
- 31 Become permanent
- 32 Prevailing force
- 35 Hot drink
- 38 30% of a phone number
- 40 Broncobusters' show
- 43 Poi source
- 45 Change one's clothes
- 48 Be nervously irresolute
- 50 Flower part
- 52 Like Santa
- 53 Address for a lady
- 54 Pervading atmosphere
- 55 Move about
- 56 Rotary-phone feature
- 57 Melody
- 58 Border
- 59 Sneak a look
- 62 Nibbled on



Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Tuesday, February 26

12:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - OTIS - Who we are and where we are going? Introduction to Otis Company. Job interviews will be conducted after the talk. MBA and graduate students from Sloan, EECS, and Mechanical Engineering are especially welcomed. Please send your resumes in advance and arrange an interview time. Free lunch provided. Room: E38-7628. Sponsor: MIT Japan Program.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Microsoft Word User Group. The MIT Microsoft Word User Group (WUG) was formed for people at MIT, from beginners to experts, who are using or interested in learning to use Microsoft Word word processing software. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - The Many Uses of Mathematics: Celestial Navigation in Early Modern Europe. Dibner Institute Luncheon Colloquium. Free. Room: E56-100. Sponsor: Dibner Institute.

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - The Public Trust: An Amphibious Doctrine. Mark Dowie will challenge the notion that the Public Trust Doctrine needs to be limited to protecting water as a public trust, and that in some form it could be used to define the commons in a much broader scope than we do today. Free. Room: Stella Room, 7-337. Sponsor: Department of Urban Studies and Planning. Environmental Policy Group.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Networking 101. Learn valuable networking skills to assist you at career fairs and in your job and internship search. Pre-registration is required. Free. Room: 12-196. Sponsor: OCSPA.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - MTL VLSI Seminar Series. High Resolution TFTLCDs: The wave of the future? Free. Room: 34-101. Sponsor: MTL VLSI Seminar.

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - GTL Seminar Series. Micro Bearing Modeling. Free. Room: 31-161. Sponsor: Gas Turbine Laboratory.

4:30 p.m. - Dilemmas of Gender, Work, and Family in the 21st Century. Speakers include Jody Heymann (Harvard, Associate Professor of Health and Social Behavior, Harvard School of Public Health, chair of Work, Family, and Democracy Initiative, and founding director of the Project on Global Working Families), and Theda Skocpol (Harvard, Victor S. Thomas Professor of Government and Sociology, and director of the Center for American Political Studies, and is president of the American Political Science Association) and moderator Ann Bookman (MIT, Executive Director of the MIT Workplace Center). Free. Room: E51-145. Sponsor: Political Science Dept, Women's Studies Program. The Boston Review.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Treasurer's Training. Learn the ropes of being a treasurer at MIT. Free. Room: 4-231. Sponsor: Residential Life and Student Life Programs.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Who Cares About Research? In the first in a series of discussions on research involving humans, the Ethics Working Group on Human Subjects in Clinical Research presents a screening of HBO's "Miss Evers' Boys." Based on a true story, the film exposes a 40-year government-backed medical research effort on humans that led to tragic consequences. It is 1932, when loyal, devoted Nurse Eunice Evers (played by Alfre Woodard) is invited to work with Dr. Brodus (Joe Morton) and Dr. Douglas (Craig Sheffer) on a federally funded program to treat syphilis patients in Alabama. Free treatment is offered to those who test positive for the disease, including Caleb Humphries (Laurence Fishburne) and Willie Johnson (Obba Babatunde). But when the government withdraws its funding, money is offered for what will become known as "The Tuskegee Experiment," a study of the effects of syphilis on patients who don't receive treatment. Free. Room: E25-111. Sponsor: HST. Vanderbilt, Northwestern, Texas, Harvard-MIT Engineering Research Center.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. - Would You Still Come if There Weren't Free Food: Event Planning at MIT. Learn the how-to's of event planning at MIT. Free. Room: Student Center PDR 3. Sponsor: Residential Life and Student Life Programs.

5:30 p.m. - "Deleuzian Space." Lecture by Elizabeth Grosz, visiting lecturer, Visual and Environmental Studies, Harvard University / author of "Space, Time and Perversion: Essays on the Politics of Bodies." Co-sponsored with Harvard University's Dept of Art and Art History. Free. Room: Rm 56-154. Sponsor: History Theory Criticism Forum, Department of Architecture.

6:30 p.m. - The 15th Arthur H. Schein Memorial Lecture: "Going Green: Architecture, the Environment and Eden." Talk by Nicholas Grimshaw, architect, London. Free. Room: Rm 10-250. Sponsor: Department of Architecture.

7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - Ladies Night at The Ear. Every Tuesday is Ladies Night at The Thirsty Ear Pub, with special Tuesday-only beverages. The Thirsty Ear Pub is located in the Ashdown House basement. Enter through the courtyard. Hours: Monday: 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Tuesday - Thursday: 7 p.m. - 1 a.m. Friday: 4 p.m. - 2 a.m. Must be over 21. Proper ID required. Free. Room: The Thirsty Ear Pub. Sponsor: The Thirsty Ear Pub.

7:00 p.m. - Evening of Videos by General Idea. Presented in conjunction with AA Bronson: Mirror Mirror at the List Visual Arts Center through March 31. Free. Room: Bartos Theater (E15). Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

Wednesday, February 27

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Tax Workshop for International Scholars. Presenter: William Authenrieth, former taxation specialist for the Internal Revenue Service who now has an independent professional tax service for the international student and scholar community. Topics: Tax requirements for international researchers and faculty members in the U.S., residency status for tax purposes, treaty provisions, filing requirements, and types of income subject to U.S. taxation. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers. Please arrive early (we will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.), so that you do not miss any critical information. \$5.00 (cash only). Room: Sala de Puerto Rico, 2nd Floor, Student Center. Sponsor: International Scholars Office.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - An Overview of Optoelectronics at IBM Research. EECS/RLE Optics and Quantum Electronics Seminar Series. Free. Room: Grier Room, 34-401B. Sponsor: Optics.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Overview of Purchasing on the Web. This demo integrates all aspects of using SAPweb for purchasing including requisitioning external vendors, internal providers and preferred partners. In this session we will introduce the SAPweb requisitioning form, the new online catalogs and purchasing procedures for buying from preferred partner vendors, including Office Depot, VWR, BOC Gases and NECX. We will demonstrate how the new online ordering system interfaces with SAPweb and we will talk about how this new process differs from the ECAT purchasing process. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Energy Use and a Sustainable Society: Possibility or Pipedream? A team of U.S. and Japanese experts are finishing a two year project, funded by The Japan Foundation, which is intended to address the following questions: What are the operating principles of a Sustainable Society? What are the implications for the U.S. and

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

Japan? As world economic leaders, how can the U.S. and Japan start to provide an example for the rest of the World? Using energy use and GHG concerns as a surrogate, what would we need to do to start to move toward sustainability over the next few decades? There are no simple answers and there will be ample time for discussion about the major trade-offs involved. Does materialism equate with quality of life? Free. Room: Room E40-496. Sponsor: Laboratory for Energy and the Environment.

12:10 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Physical Oceanography Sack Lunch Seminar. Free. Room: 54-915. Sponsor: Physical Oceanography.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - spouses&partners@mit: Homelessness. A representative of the Women's Lunch Place will discuss homelessness and poverty in Boston and will introduce you to their volunteer services. Free. Room: W20-400. Sponsor: spouses&partners@mit.

5:00 p.m. - Emerson Advanced Music Performance Student Recital. Chris Rakowski '02, Tenor and Soprano Saxophones. John Coltrane's "Giant Steps," Bill Evans' "Blue in Green," Jeff Lieberman's "Losing It," Charlie Parker's "Donna Lee," Chris Rakowski's "Open Window." Free. Room: Killian Hall. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Careers in International Development. Panelist include: Charles Boyce, CP '73 - Editor, "Career Opportunities for American Planners in International Development." Warren Brown - Director of Research and Development, ACCION International; Michael Crow, MCP '99 - Associate Scientist, Tellus Institute. Light refreshments will be served. Preregistration is required. Free. Room: E51-376. Sponsor: OCSPA. Technology and Policy Student Society.

7:00 p.m. - "Literatura y mercado: Del realismo mágico a la globalización." Talk in Spanish by Jose Carvajal, a Dominican author and editor of the International Literary News Agency and digital newsletter, Librusa. In addition to writing poetry, short stories and a novel, Carvajal has worked as a journalist and editor for international news agencies, television and newspapers. His latest publication is "Vanidad aparte," a collection of interviews with Latin American writers. Free. Room: Rm 4-163. Sponsor: Foreign Languages & Literatures.

7:00 p.m. - The Bicycle Thief. Free. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC, Comparative Media Studies.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - The 2002 Global Health and Policy Lecture Series. Arresting Epidemics: Global Efforts to Combat Infectious Disease. Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Hippocratic Society. United Trauma Relief.

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - Renaissance Dancing. There are many forms of Renaissance Dancing that we practice. From Italian balli to courtly pavans to English country. We dance them all with flair and fun. Dress is common street clothing. No experience necessary; instruction is provided. Free. Room: W20 (Sala or 407 or 491). Sponsor: Society for Creative Anachronism.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - IFILM Film Seminar. Screening of an international movie accompanied by a discussion about it. Free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, International Film Club.

Thursday, February 28

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Web calendar training. Learn to post events on the Aero-Astro Web calendar. Free. Room: 33-206. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

12:00 p.m. - MIT Chapel Concert: Berit Strong, guitar. Francesco Spinacino's "Ricercare," J.S.Bach's Prelude from the 3rd Lute Suite, Leo Brouwer's "Cancion de Cuna," Larry Cooperman's "Walking on the Water," Enrique Granados' "La Maja de Goya," Juan Martin's "Arab Invasion of Spain, 711 AD." Free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Summer Camp Briefing. An overview of resources to help identify and select day camp and summer enrichment programs for children. Free. Room: 16-151. Sponsor: Family Resource Center.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Web Publisher User Group. The purpose of the Web Publishers User Group is to: provide a forum for information and support among its members help members improve their knowledge of electronic publishing, and their expertise in its technology and standards further MIT's business goals of education, research by the appropriate use of electronic information. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Weight Watchers at Work meetings at MIT. New and returning members are always welcome at this weekly meeting on weight control. Friendly, relaxed lunch hour meetings. More info: tpriest@mit.edu. Room: Building 8-219. Sponsor: Information Center.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Dertouzos Lecture Series. "Towards Natural Human-Computer Interface." Free. Room: 34-101, 50 Vassar St. Sponsor: Laboratory for Computer Science.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Would You Still Come if There Weren't Food: Event Planning at MIT. The how-to's of Event Planning. Free. Room: PDR3. Sponsor: Residential Life and Student Life Programs.

4:14 p.m. - Physics Colloquium. TBA. Free. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: Physics Department.

4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Seminar "Piston and Piston Ring Lubrication Research at Musashi Institute of Technology" and "An Experimental Study on Phenomena of Piston Ring Collapse." Spring 2002 Sloan Automotive Lab/Energy Systems Seminar Series. Free. Room: 31-161. Sponsor: Sloan Automotive Laboratory.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. - Convex Optimization and Applications in Classification Problems. ORC Spring Seminar Series. Seminar followed by reception in the Philip M. Morse Reading Room (E40-106). Free. Room: E51-145. Sponsor: Operations Research Center.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Intellectual Property Strategy in Biotechnology. Seminar and group discussion followed by informal reception. Paula Campbell Evans, Co-Chair of the Patent Practice Group at Palmer and Dodge LLP, will discuss strategic business issues related to intellectual property in the Biotechnology industry. Paula Evans is a Registered Patent Attorney with more than fourteen years experience in the field of patents and intellectual property. She concentrates her practice in the biotechnology, biomedical, chemical and pharmaceutical areas, particularly in the fields of diagnostics, drug discovery, medical devices and therapeutics. Free. Room: E51-315. Sponsor: BioStrategy. MIT Sloan HealthTech Club.

8:00 p.m. - "Hotel Blanc." Performed by MIT staff member Marisa Cravens (senior office assistant, Urban Studies and Planning) and others. One evening, a soap salesman checks into yet another generic hotel, one more in an endless string of lonely nights, alcohol and infomercials. But tonight, it seems he is not alone in his room. He gradually grows more aware that things are changing place, falling down, missing and threatening his obsession with order. What he cannot see is that he has been joined by a slew of characters that have their own stories to tell. These stories - if he dares to watch them unfold - will change his life forever. donations accepted. Room: Kresge Little Theater. Sponsor: Working Group on Support Staff Issues. Artists Behind the Desk Series.


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Fig. 1

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Mark Named Sidney-Pacific Housemaster

By Jennifer Krishnan
NEWS EDITOR

Distinguished Professor in Health Sciences and Technology Roger G. Mark '60 and his wife Dorothy will be the housemasters of the new graduate student dormitory at Sidney and Pacific Streets.

"Where Roger stuck out was that he had a real enthusiasm to work with students," said Shunmugavelu D. Sokka G., a member of the search committee.

"We like students, particularly grad students," Mark said. He and his wife decided "living in a student community [would be] fun" and rewarding.

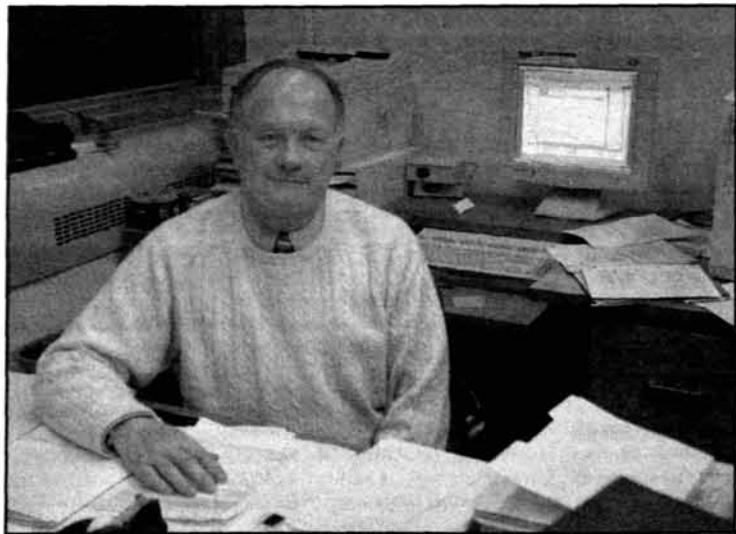
Sokka noted Mark's history in mentoring graduate students, which has earned him multiple awards.

Mark has also been "a strong advocate for graduate student issues," Sokka said. "Much of [the housemaster's job] is advocating for students."

"I'm a lifer," Mark said. He received an SB degree from MIT's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in 1960 and a PhD from the same department in 1966. He also earned an MD from Harvard Medical School.

Housemaster has plans for dorm

Sidney-Pacific is "a huge place with no students, no government, and no traditions," Mark said. "The



Professor Roger G. Mark '60 has been named Sidney-Pacific housemaster.

first thing that has to be done is ... to pull together a core group of student leaders" to start making some decisions." Mark indicated that some such students had already been identified.

The northwest sector of campus, which includes Edgerton House, The Warehouse, and Sidney-Pacific "has to be put together as a major focus of graduate student life on campus," Mark said. He suggested activities such as a Sunday frisbee league.

"The broad objective is to make the residence a place where [gradu-

ate students] make friends, where they can feel at home," he added.

Mark supports Senior Segue

Mark agreed that crowding in dormitories was a problem, but said that "Trying to solve it on a crash basis" may not result in a good solution.

"From the grad students' point of view, developing graduate housing is a significant goal" that the administration "brought into years ago, and taking away 140 beds ... is unfortunate," Mark said.

"On the other hand, I also think that undergrads in some buildings are pretty badly crowded," he said. "Putting four or five people into one room is an excellent way of whittling down the class size by flunk-outs," because of the added stress of

living under crowded conditions.

Sokka said Mark independently came up with a solution nearly identical to the Senior Segue plan drafted by graduate students.

"My suggestion was that we should offer a room to seniors who are applying or plan to apply to the MEng program," Mark said. "We [EECS] admit ... roughly 200 students, twice a year ... and the timing is such that when you apply for MEng, you know that you're going to apply by spring term" of junior year.

Since by that time, "we can find out with a fairly high degree of certainty who's likely to get in," it would make sense to assign these students in graduate student dormitories, Mark said.

Mark stressed that he expected seniors would be "spread out over several dorms" and would "have to be willing to assume role of a grad student. ... and in terms of academic work, this is consistent" since students would be beginning what is essentially a two-year Masters program.

Some issues still hanging

Sokka said the search committee was still working on choosing an associate housemaster.

He added that rents for Sidney-Pacific are not officially set yet, despite the fact that the deadline to enter the lottery is Feb. 28.

Sokka said he hoped Mark would help push the rent-setting process forward.

Another issue that remains to be resolved is whether or not married students will be allowed to live in Sidney-Pacific, Sokka said.

Class Vote To Decide Ring Seal

Brass Rat, from Page 1

began distributing his petition. Soon after, Quattrochi announced the plan for a class-wide e-mail vote.

"We're tired of second-guessing each other," Quattrochi said.

The Ring Committee chair also preferred to make any changes sooner rather than later, hoping to avoid complications and delays with the company producing the 2004 ring.

Student opinion mixed

Class of 2004 students had mixed opinions on the gender issue.

"I don't think not having a woman implies anything," said Burcu N. Erkmen '04. "I know I'm equal with any guy."

"I personally would rather have the two men," said Mana M. Shah '04. As far as the traditional seal goes, I don't think that's where you want to make the change. I don't find it offensive or anything."

"It represents the new MIT," said Roy D. Gross '04. "It shows how MIT is forward-thinking."

The students were generally willing to accept the outcome of vote, whatever it may be.

"If they want to go ahead and add [a woman], sure go ahead," Erkmen said.

"It's not a huge deal for me," Gross said. "Either way, as long as the rest of the ring looks good, I'm in support of it."

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MIT Department of FACILITIES

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Vassar St. Utilities

The crosswalk at Vassar St. from the Albany St. garage to the main entrance of Building 39 is back in place. The rear of the parking lot between Buildings 45 and 48 is now closed to allow for utility work.

Stata Center

Occupants of Building 36 may experience some noise and odor as work continues. Mitigation for construction equipment exhaust fumes in Building 36 is being implemented. Utility work will begin shortly at the southeast edge of the site, between the site trailer and Bldgs 56 and 66.

Kendall Hotel

The Kendall Hotel, across the street from the MIT Coop, will open soon. For information and reservations, call (617) 354-3600.

NStar Transmission Line project

Work continues on construction of a 115 kv transmission line along Memorial Drive from Pleasant Street (near Howard Johnson's) to the Longfellow Bridge. This work will conclude at the end of March. Lane restrictions may cause traffic delays.

Memorial Drive Traffic Signals

The Traffic Lights at Wadsworth and Endicott Streets are fully installed. Power to the lights should be connected and the signals activated shortly. Landscape work will begin in the spring.

Simmons Hall

Installation of waterproofing, insulation, and windows is in progress. Permanent roofing has been partially installed. Excavation of the west end of Vassar St. for utility installation continues. This may affect traffic flow.

For information on MIT's building program, see <http://web.mit.edu/evolving>
This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.

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The Tech.

No. 1.

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THE TECH.

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STUDENTS AND FRIENDS:

GREETING.

TO-DAY is issued the first number of our paper; and, although we tremble at the thought of the work before us, we begin it gladly. We believe that the same public spirit that founded THE TECH will sustain it to the end.

The Institute has never been rich in papers. Only one, we believe, has ever been published. Some years ago, the *Spectrum* shone for a time, but soon faded away. Still later, an attempt was made to establish another paper, but in vain; the first number never appeared.

And now comes THE TECH, asking its share of favor. Even as its predecessor, it attempts great things. It will be its aim to promote the interests of the students of the Institute, and maintain a friendly spirit among them, breaking

down the ancient barriers of class and department. It will exercise a guardian care over the members of the school, protecting the Freshman, curbing the Sophomore, correcting the Junior, and supporting the Senior in his old age. It will open an avenue for the expression of public opinion, and will aim, in every possible way, to help all in the development of their young manhood and young womanhood. It is hoped, too, that it will keep the interests of the Institute before its graduates, cherishing among them the *memory* of their *Alma Mater*. Our brother and sister colleges, also, will become better acquainted with us through this paper.

We cannot look far into the future. We cannot tell what buds of genius may be unfolded in these columns. But even if genius does not bloom; even if the beauties of rhetoric and poetry are not developed here; even if this paper becomes, like the school it represents, only a field for plain, honest work, — we shall nevertheless be sure that the efforts we make are stepping-stones to further attainments, helping us all to the higher and nobler uses of our lives.

IT may be interesting to the graduates and friends of the Institute to know the history of this paper's formation, and its plan of management.

About a month ago, a meeting of the students was held for the purpose of considering the publication of a school paper. A committee of five was chosen, with instructions to examine the matter in detail. A week later the committee presented a report in favor of the proposed paper. The recommendations of the committee were subsequently embodied in the present form of government.

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Chomsky, Farmer Discuss 'Uses of Haiti'

By Brian Loux
NEWS EDITOR

Institute Professor Noam A. Chomsky, along with Dr. Paul Farmer of Harvard Medical School, drew yet another crowd that overflowed most of MIT's large lecture halls Friday night. The two were the keynote speakers in a discussion entitled "The Uses of Haiti," where the two discussed the current plight and fight for democracy in the country.

"Haiti was the richest colony in the Western Hemisphere, and Bangladesh was in the East," Chomsky said during his lecture. "It is odd to see that now the most impoverished places are Haiti and Bangladesh."

The discussion was part of the MIT Western Hemisphere Project and sponsored by the MIT Technology and Culture forum and MIT Pugwash. "We collaborated with Pugwash for this event," said Erica L. McEvoy '03, president of the Western Hemisphere Project. "When Pugwash learned that we were having the event with Noam Chomsky, they wanted to co-sponsor the event. They helped a lot with publicity and with A/V, especially putting the talk on the Web."

While the project is currently focusing on Peru, "we just took events that came to us," McEvoy said. "Initially Paul Farmer, with whom we were already in contact, wanted to do a talk about Haiti, and we acted upon that."

The weekend continued with talks on social implications of technology that made up the Student Pugwash Northeast Regional Conference, held this year at MIT.

Dorsinville hopes for democracy

Harvard Research Fellow Nancy Dorsinville introduced the two key speakers. A native Haitian, she thanked the men "on behalf of my countrymen."

"They call us the poorest country in the hemisphere," she said, "but I think that is arguable. I think we are the most impoverished." Dorsinville cited U.S. foreign policy as one reason for Haiti's perpetual state of poverty, especially the refusal to lend funds for the fledgling democracy which was held back due to election problems. "I think the oldest republic could say the same," she said. "Every time there was a different prerequisite which we fulfilled. I do not understand what they want in our struggle for democracy."

She added that nearing the bicentennial anniversary of the nation's declaration of independence (2004), "In the name of democracy and humanitarian concerns ... we demand a release of these funds."

Sarcastic Chomsky criticizes U.S.

Chomsky started his talk by informing the audience "at a New York talk [Thursday] night, I had to be taken out under police protection [when I discussed the Middle East]. So if anything happens tonight, I'll turn it over to Paul," he said. After the laughter settled down, he added, "So, the Middle East," and was answered by another round of laughter.

Dry humor was the order of the night, as both speakers frequently

used sarcastic quips to make their points, often referring to each other's jokes throughout the night. "Both speakers were really cynical and used snide comments, but you could feel the passion in their words," said Teresa S. Kim '04 who attended the lecture.

Chomsky compared the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to that of Haiti, citing how Palestine and Haiti both harp on their histories while western countries prefer not to think about them. "Those who have their boot on someone's neck don't want to think about how it got there," he said. "Those who have their neck under the boot apparently have a different way of seeing things, because they're seen as backwards and uncivilized."

Chomsky then began to discuss his opinion of why Haiti has not met the West's standards for democracy. He said that Haiti's

"Clinton harshly condemned it in the 1992 election," he said, "and as soon as he got into office he made it harsher."

Farmer discusses health crises

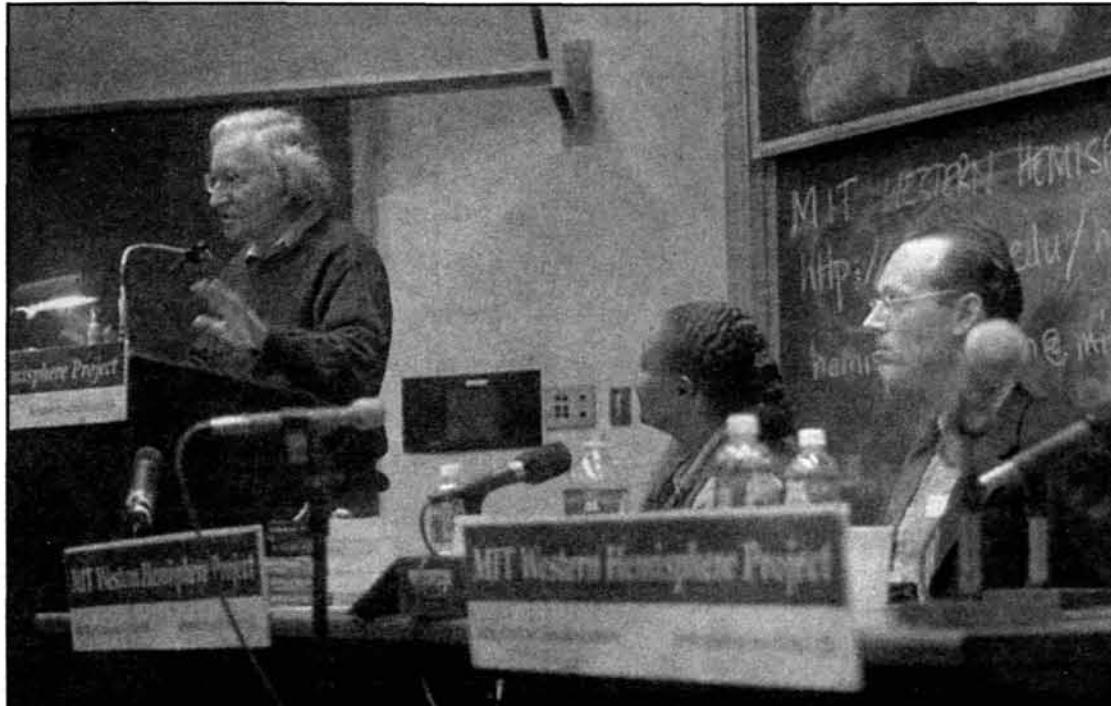
Farmer was in Haiti for 20 years as a physician and an advocate for the poor. He wrote a book discussing Haiti's history and its present state of near-collapse also entitled *The Uses of Haiti*. "I would add when Noam wrote the introduction, he said, 'This book is slated for oblivion.' I want to thank you, Noam," he said. "It was very helpful as a marketing ploy." He hailed Chomsky in his talk as "the only American intellectual that's telling the truth about what's going on in Haiti."

Farmer briefly commented on the health conditions in Haiti. "No matter how you look at Haiti, the situation is grave." He discussed

about how the poverty of the country was affecting its delicate ecology. Farmer said that it was "profound" and said that the basic need for fuel has led to massive deforestation, and also pointed out that Cuba has taken an active role in supplying the country with propane fuel as an alternative.

A student asked what the U.S. rationale is for maintaining the economic embargo. Paul said that it really was only the work of a select few in the state department, primarily pointing the finger at Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.). Chomsky felt that the United States still was not comfortable with the idea of a large populous truly controlling and guiding the country. "We only allow governments that allow private sector dominance," he concluded.

An audience member asked whether the situation could be



MICHAEL BORUCKE—THE TECH

Noam Chomsky, with Nancy Dorsinville and Paul Farmer of Harvard University, describes the history of U.S.-Haiti relations at "The Uses of Haiti" last Friday in 34-101.

idea of democracy runs up against the west's idea of a democracy run by the elite. "The problem with the election 10 years ago was that it came out the wrong way," he said. "The United States was certain that their candidate, a World Bank Official, would win ... but out of the woodwork came a populist priest [Aristede] who won because he was focused on things in the country that no one was paying attention to." He said that since Aristede's support came more from the poorer areas of the country, this did not fit the top down democracy model the United States wanted and support was withdrawn.

He also went further back into Haiti's history, praising Haiti's revolution as the only one in the 18th century calling for universal freedom. "It was beyond idea that black slaves could liberate themselves," he said. He then documented U.S. involvement in the country starting with Woodrow Wilson's mandatory foreign investment policy and continued with the rise of the military juntas. He also talked about the refugee crisis of 1991, saying that the U.S. disallowed to return to their homeland when the government had set up a democracy until a military coup reinstated the previous powers.

the lowering life expectancy, the death rate of women bearing children, and the contaminated water supplies. "As someone supplying health care to Haiti, we need to be concerned about ... what is driving to this pathology."

Breaking from the planned topic, Farmer followed up on Chomsky's talk about the country's history, discussing the elections that he personally saw, specifically the election of 1987 in which the military junta massacred a number of citizens who were swarming to the polls. He noted that the citizenry overcame their fear three years later in the next election to support the popular Aristede.

Farmer finished by recommending that Haiti employ a public health initiative as soon as possible. "I tend to get people when it is too late," he said. As he outlined his plan, he focused on the need for immediate capital, and criticized the United States for charging interest on a public health loan that they never sent.

Attendees intrigued with talk

As opposed to previous Chomsky talks, Friday's question and answer session was mild and without incident.

Some attendees were concerned

solved by internal United States policy changes. Farmer said that positive change would depend on action in this country, but asked, "how many people outside this room know one fact said here tonight?" He continued that if the public did know, they would be far too mad than the government would ever want.

Most of the attendees were pleased with the talk. "Both of them spoke very well," Kim said, "and their styles also complemented each other."

McEvoy felt the talk went exceptionally well and the potential for the Western Hemisphere Project. "Basically, we wanted our people to be aware of our neighbors," she said. "This doesn't just mean Latin America, but also Cuba, Haiti, the Caribbean, and Alaska. We didn't just want to make people aware politically, but also socially about what is going on in our hemisphere."

McEvoy also noted that the program does not sponsor one ideology nor is it only a political forum. "It's not all political," she said, "we want to look at social and cultural as well. This is why we sponsor discussion events and had the Latin Chamber Music Festival on Saturday."

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from page 10



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IFC Spring Rush Participation Varies Based on House Targets

Spring Rush, from Page 1

ber of affiliated members who would attend, paying the price when most of the food was eaten before freshmen even arrived.

Participation level varies

The intensity with which frater-

nities and living groups have been recruiting varies, as some need new members more than others. Zeta Beta Tau, which has 16 freshmen living in the house, is in the latter category.

"We're pretty laid back about it ... we don't have the urgent need to get members," said rush chair

Aadel A. Chaudhuri '04. However, most houses have at least one or two freshmen in mind who rushed in the fall but opted to live dormitories. "We definitely have specific people in mind," Chaudhuri said.

Other fraternities are more active, recruiting in the dormitories. Phi Delta Theta has posted on campus and Sigma Chi has held actual recruiting events in dormitories.

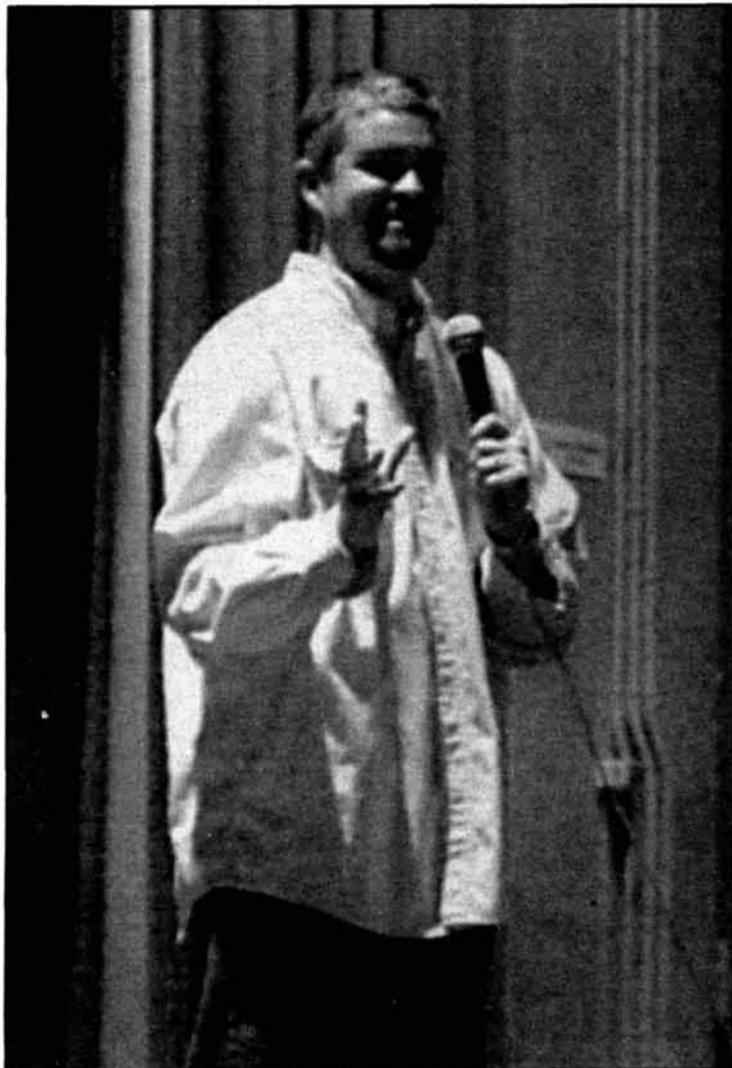
A stronger effort does not necessarily signal desperation, however. "Our target [for spring rush] is undefined," said PDT rush chair Dylan B. Chavez '04. "We felt it was necessary to look at the options," as spring rush will be more important in the future. "It lets us get a jump on next year's stuff."

One possible reason for the surprising turnout of fraternity and ILG affiliates last night is that the MIT administration has agreed to pay 80 percent of the estimated fees FSILGs will lose next year, when all freshmen will be housed in dormitories. As a stipulation they have made participation in spring rush a requirement to receive this funding.

The IFC does not have any more joint spring rush events scheduled, as individual houses will handle their events from now on.

Although freshman attendance was perhaps lower than could have been hoped for, some students found consolation in the comedian, who stayed for 30 or 40 minutes. "He was funny," Chavez said. His specialty was bathroom humor, according to audience reports. IFC rush chair Yardley called it "some twisted humor."

Not all enjoyed his routine, however. One unfortunate student sporting a mohawk had to endure the comic's wrath; he and his crew were noticeably stone-faced.



MIGUEL CALLES—THE TECH
The IFC kicked off Spring Rush with entertainment by local comedian PJ Thibodeau and a DVD raffle Monday night in La Sala.

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Class Council Races Unevenly Contested

UA Elections, from Page 1

some friendly competition, but I guess I should thank them."

Vigil said that "competition would have raised the bar, help us do a better campaign. I am excited but also disappointed."

Lee said she expects at least one other candidate, Josiah D. Seale '03, to submit his petition for UA president in the near future.

Seale confirmed his plans to run, and said that his "petition is not quite ready because of numerous reasons, one of them being that the person I was originally running with dropped out on me. I am really picky about who I run with because I want someone who cares enough to get things done and is in the race for the right reasons."

With only about a week's grace period, Seale is on a race against time, but remains hopeful. He said he already has another running mate in mind, who is actually the first person he approached about campaigning together as a ticket.

Michael R. Hall '03 is running for Class of 2003 VP instead of UA vice president with Seale, but he said he is still confident in Seale's abilities. "Before the campaign, I had considered both serving my class as a class officer and serving under Josiah as UA Vice President," Hall said. "After considering changing circumstances, I decided I would be more effective serving directly as a class officer."

"I wish Josiah the best of luck in this election. If elected, he would serve the UA well as its president," Hall said.

Officers hope for competition

Teresa S. Kim '04, the current co-social chair of the 2004 Class Council, is disappointed by the lack of candidates for her position. "I think it's really sad. The elections are also rather odd, because last year hardly anyone ran for president and vice president, but this year there are five people campaigning for president." When asked about the possible explanations for the turnout, Kim said that it could be because "the class council is a lot more functional nowadays. We had more money, we did more stuff, so now more people realize that things could get done by the council."

Kim also stressed the importance of the social chair position. "Like it or not, the class councils are social organizations, so the social chairs do most of the work with little

recognition." Nadjia Yousif '04, also a current co-social chair for 2004, warned that "the class will have no right to complain" next year when the vacant positions are appointed.

In contrast to the low numbers running for other positions in the class council, there are at least five candidates for 2004 president so far. Yousif considers this a good thing. "It encourages people to come up with innovative ideas, and separates the people who want to run for the sake of running apart from those who are running because they care."

Maria E. Hidalgo '04, one of the candidates for president, agrees that "junior year is a pivotal year. Things have been going well for us this past year, but the word on the street is that it is time for a change. We've had the same people on class council for two years now."

Hidalgo's main hope is that the elections go smoothly. Insoo Kim '05, a presidential candidate for 2005 class council, agrees that "it [the election] is not about power, but getting things done. It is fun to get ideas rolling and fixing the lack of class unity."

Many of candidates are motivated by the lack of class unity within their classes, as well as the entertainment factor that the position entails. Alexis DeSieno '05 and Jonathan Choi '05 summarized these common feelings.

"It is fulfilling, I don't really know how to describe it," said DeSieno, a candidate for 2005 VP.

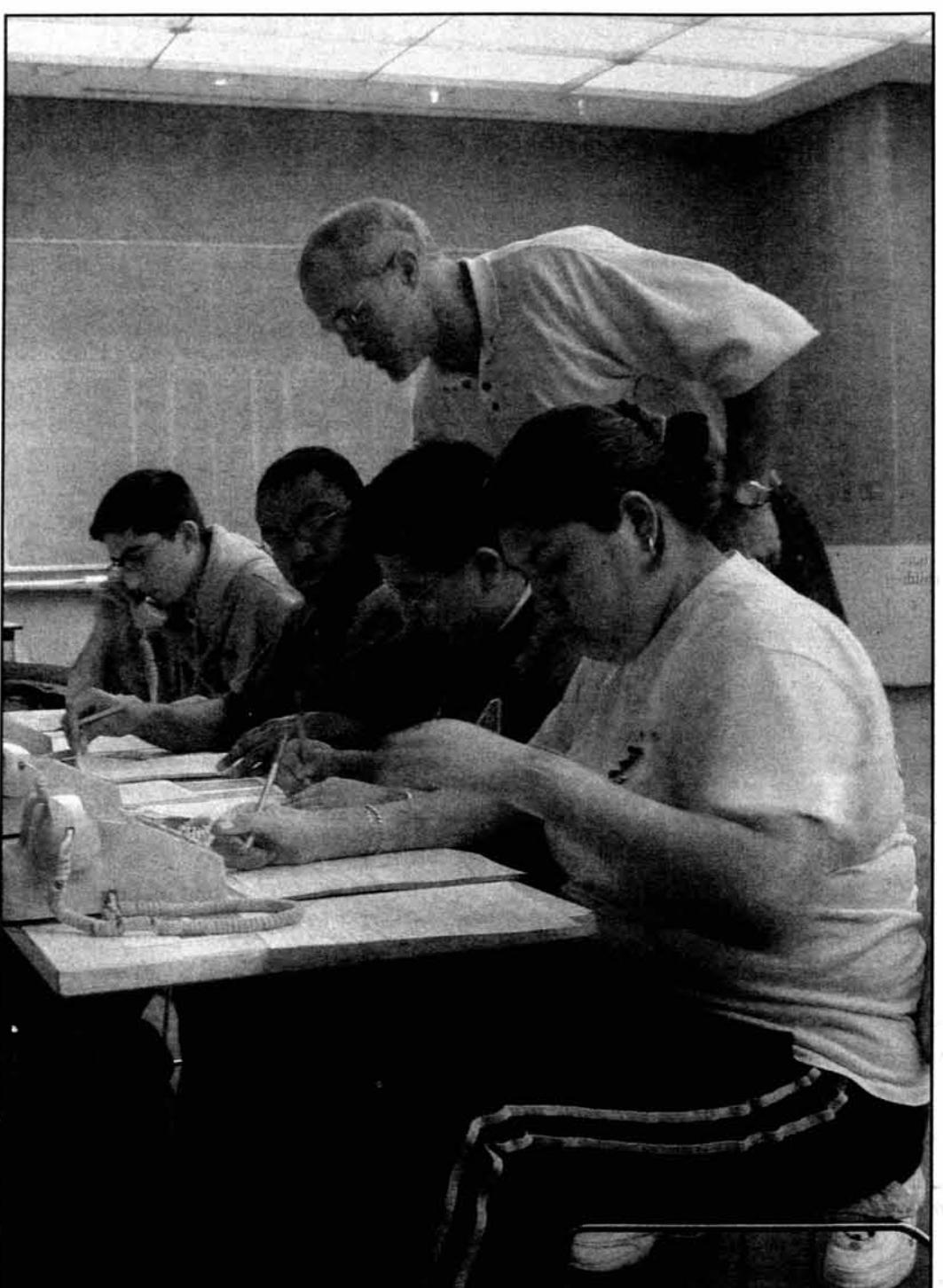
Choi, another one of the four candidates for 2005 VP, said that "our class is not cohesive as a whole. I also want to bring closer interaction between different ethnic groups on campus."

Activity outside MIT seen as key

Another common idea that the candidates support involves MIT people branching out and being active in community. "We need to get away from MIT," DeSieno said.

A big concern driving the 2003 candidates is the task their class faces of finding good jobs upon graduation. Both Hall, a candidate for 2003 VP, and Sina Kevin Nazemi '03, the sole candidate for 2003 president, hope to get started early on the career fair.

"I am glad that there is at least one person running for each position on the class council," said Nazemi, "I hope to make good use of the extra student activities fee that will become available as part of the tuition hike."



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

From left to right, Ibrahim Tadros '05, Bosun Adeoti '05, Rafael Mendiola '04, and Cecilia Henriquez '04 phone Burton Conner alumni as housemaster Halston Taylor looks on. Burton Conner is phoning alumni in an attempt to raise money for renovating its weight room, which Taylor says needs new equipment and a new floor.

Faculty Discuss Changes to BEH

By Flora Amwayi

STAFF REPORTER

Dean of the School of Engineering Thomas L. Magnanti announced that the Division of Bioengineering and Environmental Health (BEH) is changing its name to the Division of Biological Engineering (BE) at the faculty meeting last week. The Academic Council formally approved the name change Feb. 12.

Professor Howard Brenner of the chemical engineering department said there was insufficient discussion of the change. "We are concerned about the impact the biological engineering division is going to have on chemical engineering," Brenner said, adding that the BE division may evolve into a department and this will compete with Course X, which also offers bioengineering as part of its curriculum.

Scientific access also discussed

Another issue discussed at the faculty meeting was the new committee on access to and disclosure of scientific information, sponsored by Provost Robert A. Brown. "We set up the committee in December," said Stephen C. Graves, professor of management and chair of the faculty. "The committee will deal with policies on open research and free access to information," he added, noting that the committee's work was "primarily [to]

re-examine current policies and examine whether there is need for change.

"The essence of the current policy has been that we do not do classified research" and "once we have students at MIT, we cannot single them out for restriction from research," Graves said in justifying the formation of the committee.

The committee's charge is "to look at current policy in light of current state of affairs," Graves explained. The committee will also look at the implication of faculty participating in classified research and review the policy with respect to use of classified material on campus.

Since more and more industry research goes on campus, "There is potential for certain restrictions," Graves commented.

The committee plans to gather information, document history and assess the current and possible future scenarios and it is to report to the faculty and the Academic Council in May.

The need for change in policy was emphasized by Brenner, who has had several proposals to do work involving classified research. "Last spring, I got a proposal to sign a sub-contract on aerosols in conjunction with the Army, and it would involve work on bioterrorism," Brenner explained. But since the Army would have control over the whole program, MIT was

not willing to sign it since "MIT does not want to be told by anybody who they can or cannot employ to do research according to the existing policies," Brenner added. He said he hoped that in view of Sept. 11, MIT will change its policies to view classified research differently.

Clay discusses crowding problems

Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 addressed the issue of crowding, reminding the faculty of the e-mail message he sent out addressing the issue since approximately 400 students are affected. In the e-mail, he had indicated ways they could deal with crowding, with the most feasible ones being reducing the number of admitted freshmen and taking about 150 from graduate housing for undergraduates without necessarily interfering with the graduate community. Two committees were appointed to deal with the crowding issue and prevent the scenario from happening again. Clay said the problem would be gone in three to five years.

"There is open skepticism on whether this strategy will work," he added. He addressed this by saying that the hope on fulfilling the strategy was based on maintaining the size of the admitted class and confirmed that the plan for next year is to restrict new students to 1,000.

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MIT Leaders Not Worried About Protests

Commencement, from Page 1

committee but also past recommendations and "unsolicited recommendations from the MIT community." Also, Vest said, the availability of speakers played an important role in the decision.

MIT not concerned about protests

Dalai said that the committee considered the reception each potential speaker might get, hoping to avoid speakers who might be heckled or protested by students. He said he was concerned about the possibility of protests from the greater Boston community, but he did not think MIT students would actively protest during Commencement.

"I'm not really concerned about the MIT community demonstrating against him," Dalai said. "I'm very excited to have him."

"I think he's an excellent choice," Seneviratne said. "I think he will be an interesting speaker."

Seneviratne said he did not expect much in the way of protests. "I don't think it should be a poten-

tial problem."

"MIT has hosted many prominent world leaders whose views, countries or organizations may elicit a wide range of opinions," Vest said. "They have been treated respectfully by our community and we have maintained appropriate security. That will be the case at Commencement this year."

Students have mixed response

While some students will almost certainly be protesting Wolfensohn's speech, others thought he was a good choice for the Commencement address.

"I think it's terrible and I'm really embarrassed that MIT chose him," said Corrina C. Chase '02. "The World Bank has done a lot of really terrible things." She said she expected students to protest during Commencement.

"I can promise you that at least 20 people will be protesting during Commencement," Chase said. However, she added, "it won't be an organized protest."

"I think that's pretty damn cool,"

said Iahn Cajigas '02. "I think it's pretty controversial. It'll be interesting to hear what he has to say."

Eli J. Weinberg '02 said he did not think MIT students would protest, but he thought others from Boston and Cambridge might. "I think they could have found someone that would be a bit more agreeable," Cajigas said. "We don't need the potential for rioting."

Weinberg said he would still be interested to hear Wolfensohn speak, but not necessarily for Commencement. "I'd love to hear a speech from the guy," Weinberg said.

Sanjay Basu '02, president of United Trauma Relief, called Vest's choice of Wolfensohn "a remarkably ignorant decision."

"I think Commencement is supposed to be a time to celebrate," Basu said. "But we're going to be listening to tear gas canisters popping instead of hearing 'Pomp and Circumstance.'"

Wolfensohn joined bank in 1995

Wolfensohn has been World

Bank president since 1995. He also serves as chairman of the board of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University. He has received honorary degrees from Brown University, George Washington University, Michigan State University and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Prior to joining the World Bank, Wolfensohn was president and chief executive officer of his own investment firm, and previously held senior positions with several banking firms. He was awarded an Honorary Knighthood by Queen Elizabeth II in 1995 for his contribution to the arts.

A native of Australia, Wolfensohn holds BA and LLB degrees from the University of Sydney. He earned an MBA from Harvard business school in 1959.

Last year's Commencement speaker was NASA Chief Daniel S. Goldin, and Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly S. Fiorina SM '89 addressed the Class of 2000. Then-President William Jefferson Clinton spoke at Commencement in 1998.



Chas Freeman speaks at the forum entitled "The U.S. and China: A Coming Conflict?" The discussion panel, sponsored by the MIT Center for International Studies, was held in the Wong Auditorium Monday afternoon.

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SPORTS

MIT Club Skates BU Event

By Diana Cheng

TEAM MEMBER

MIT's Figure Skating Club competed in the United States Figure Skating Association's intercollegiate competition on Saturday, with Caitlin Q. Marlow '03 leading the team with a third place finish in the individual compulsory competition.

Marlow, Kristen M. Jonker '03, and Diana S. Cheng '04 placed third, fourth, and eighth, respectively, in individual compulsory moves for the Pre-Intermediate B division. Moves included two single jumps chosen from flip, loop, or lutz, a jump combination with the second jump being a loop, a camel or sit spin, a camel-sit combination spin, and a footwork sequence.

In the afternoon's events, Sheila N. Tandon G and Cheng placed eighth and thirteenth, respectively, in the Pre-Intermediate A solo dance, which was the Canasta Tango set pattern. Barbara M. Cutler G once again performed well on her Intermediate solo dance, which was the Ten Fox for this competition. She received the bronze medal.

Free skate not as successful

At the Pre-Intermediate B free skate, Cheng placed eighth skating her Lord of the Rings program. Her jumps improved from last week but her spins were worse. Cutler performed another solid program in the Pre-Intermediate C competition, cleanly landing her axel jump. Derek Bruening G skated again in the novice mens' free skate.

The USFSA-sanctioned competition was held at Boston University's Walter Brown Arena on Feb. 23. The competitors were mostly the same as those who competed at the MIT competition last week, so not surprisingly, the results were similar.

However, the team maneuver event was cancelled because the organizers of the BU competition predicted that the events would last until 10 p.m., although the competition finished ahead of schedule.

Exhibition in Johnson March 9

The MIT Figure Skating Club will be holding an exhibition at 7 p.m. on March 9 at Johnson Ice Rink. Many members of MIT's figure skating team will also be performing at this show in the opening number, group ice dance numbers, solo freestyle programs, and with the synchronized skating team.

Women's Gymnastics Places Third Against Div. I UMass, Div. II University of Alaska**Seniors Lead Lady Engineers to Finish Within Four Points of Div. I Rival UMass**

By Eduardo Ovalle

TEAM COACH

MIT's Women's Gymnastics team placed third against two strong opponents on Feb. 19, finishing just behind local Division I opponent University of Massachusetts 175.175-178.45.

The University of Alaska, a Division II school, won the meet with a 183.6.

Tuesday was the last home meet of the season for the Engineers, and they entered the competition aiming to break the team record after scoring within six tenths on the previous two meets. This was the final home meet for the team's two seniors, and the team continued the MIT tradition of giving seniors the privilege competing last on each event.

Seniors Amy M. Shui and Cecile E. LeCocq anchored the vault lineup. Shui posted her best home score of the season with an 8.625 and LeCocq scored a career-best 8.65 on a handspring full that she started using for the first time this year. MIT had a strong start to the meet as everyone in the lineup scored better than an 8.6, the first time that has happened in school history.

As a team, MIT scored a 43.575 on vault while UMass suffered several falls on the bars to finish with a disastrous 41.75. UMass is considered the top team in the state, averaging 47.185 on the bars coming into the meet. However, the team has suffered some injuries this year, scores of 7.55, 7.75, 8.2, 8.2, 8.45 and 9.15 reflected this.

MIT consistently strong on bars

On the second rotation, MIT beat UMass' bars score by a full point with a 42.75. Again, for the first time in school history, the entire bars line-up scored better than an 8.0 with the lowest score being an 8.1. In the meantime, Alaska got started with a 44.325 on vault. Overall none of the three teams' best vaulters performed well on this night.

UMass won vault on the third rotation with a 45.425 but their high vault was a tuck tuck for a 9.225. Alaska did what UMass could not by catching their high-



ANNIE DING—THE TECH

Amy M. Shui '02 in the floor routine during Tuesday's meet with the University of Alaska and the University of Massachusetts. MIT came in third with 175.175 behind UMass's 178.450 and Alaska's 183.600.

flying release skills on bars and posting a team total of 46.1 to walk away with that event. At the halfway mark, it was Alaska 90.425, UMass 87.175 and MIT 86.325.

Alaska dominates beam

For the fourth rotation, MIT moved to beam and Alaska to the floor exercise while UMass sat on a bye. The engineers competed in

reverse order with Merritt S. Tam '05 leading the way. Tam had a major wobble after her handspring layout series but fought hard through her set to garner a 9.375. The first routine pretty much told the story of the day for beam. None of the competitors were on, but none of them gave up and fought hard for every skill. Shui anchored the beam line-up with a

Nordic Team Takes First In Freestyle Sprint, 10K

By Alessandra Sabelli and Ivana Medos

TEAM MEMBERS

The MIT Nordic Ski Team had a strong performance at Ole's C.C. Ski Center in Vermont on the weekend of Feb. 16-17, with wins in the women's freestyle sprint race and the men's and women's 10K races.

In the Saturday's freestyle sprint race, Marissa L. Yates '03 dominated the women's competition. Despite the slushy snow, Yates skied a strong and fast race, overpowering her rivals and getting a well deserved first place.

For the men's team, Karl-Magnus W. McLetchie '02 raced the semi-final, while Timothy G. Garnett '02 fought his way up through all three runs of elimination, qualifying for

season high 9.2 and helped the team to a 44.65 counting two falls. Alaska's Mandi Burdick gained a meet high 9.65 on floor exercise in helping her team to a 45.7 total on that event.

UMass then moved to floor and Alaska to beam for the fifth rotation. Again, UMass looked uninspired and unmotivated on floor, coming up with a 45.1 team total. A high of 9.4 was turned in by Megan Donoghue, but nobody else scored higher than a 9.1.

Alaska, in the meantime, was putting on a clinic on beam. Rachel Glover performed a perfect double toe turn and received a 9.65 for a very good routine. As a team, Alaska hit for a 47.475, their highest event total of the night.

UMass clinches second

On the last rotation, MIT took to the floor while UMass finished on beam. Some of UMass gymnasts redeemed themselves on beam with a 9.525 coming from Nicole Groccia and a 9.675 from Megan Donoghue. UMass finished with a 46.175 beam set.

MIT in the meantime was showing signs of weariness on the floor exercise. It was 9:15 pm by the time they took to the floor and tumbling was low and the dance was short of rotation or proper position. The team looked flat out tired, but also determined to make it through the best they could. Counting two falls, the Engineers finished with a 44.2 on floor.

Team aims for nationals

There are two regular season meets left prior to the ECAC/Regional Championships. The team will need two solid scores around 179 to put themselves in a position to compete for a spot at the national meet. The top four teams coming out of the regionals will qualify for the championships hosted by Ithaca College on March 22 and 23.

MIT will need to put together three solid meets in a row in order to have a chance including the ECAC/Regional Championship in which they will have to beat Springfield College and SUNY-Brockport.



Rowers blur by in Saturday's CRASH-B World Indoor Rowing Championships at the Reggie Lewis Athletic Center in Boston. For MIT athletes, the CRASH-B sprints mark the end of the winter training season.

STANLEY HU—THE TECH

the finals and placing fifth overall.

Garnett, Yates top 10K classic

On Sunday, the format changed to a 10K classic race, with fresh snowfall and higher temperatures making the race slow. However, the team's performance was excellent, with Garnett and Yates stealing the spotlight with well-deserved first place finishes, followed closely by the rest of the team.

McLetchie finished strong in fifth place, while the team's novices Ivana Medos '03 and Alessandra M. Sabelli '03 recorded their highest personal results so far this season, finishing eighth and the 11th, respectively.

The strong results give the team high hopes for a solid finish to the season at the upcoming regional competition at Waterville Valley, New Hampshire, and qualifying for nationals.